

SEVEN DAYS

WHO'LL OPPOSE
THE GOV?

Paul Heintz looks
ahead to November
election



Real Estate Issue

SCHOOL'S OUT FOREVER?

PAGE 32

Closed five years, Pine Ridge sits empty

VIRTUAL ARCHITECTURE

PAGE 38

Oculus Rift helps clients see in 3-D

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PAGE 41

Apartment realtor Steve Lipkin

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"Mobley Reed is simply a Vermont blues treasure!" — Seven Days
Streetcar named the Mobley Reed Project in 1967, the band has recorded 10 CDs and has shared the stage with blues legends Delbert McClenny, Buckwheat Zydeco, The Neville Brothers, Little Feat and more.

COMEDIANS JOSIE LEAVITT & SUE SCHMIDT

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 7:30 PM

Join two Vermont comedians for a great night of laughter! Josie Leavitt has been performing stand-up for longer than she can remember. Getting her start in New York City, she played at Stand-Up NY, Caroline's, the Comic Strip and many other clubs. Sue Schmidt performs comedy throughout the country including Vermont, New Hampshire, Florida and Anchorage, Alaska. They'll perform together in Stowe!



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TRIP ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 3:00 PM AND 7:30 PM

For the fourth year in a row, Stowe's TRIP Dance Company will return to our stage for two performances!



AN EVENING WITH MOLLY RINGWALD

SATURDAY, MARCH 29,
AT 7:30 PM

Fun and stage veteran Molly Ringwald has recently released "Except Sometimes," an album of standards from the Great American Songbook. In Stowe, she will share her stories and sing with her jazz quartet.

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Big Votes, Small City

In Tuesday's Town Meeting, Bellingham voters shut down a school budget that would have resulted in a nearly 33 percent tax hike. Approved in March, the budget included measures and closed a veteran Republican and a local Democrat to the school board.

They also agreed to buy a Wincoade Hydroelectric power plant, a stored power/wind-presentation within the city and entered a plan to use \$9.6 million in city tax credits to pay for substantial improvement projects — note it is plan to transform the hang around. Moon Planet into a hub that as big restaurants, a performance stage

Seven Days reporters wrote about them and called for action — including controversial tactics in Montpelier and South Burlington — on the CDT Message board.

As Burlington voters braved Thursday's cold to stream to the polls, the work in the New Bedford played host to the most actors packed local election caucus yet.

Ward's Republican challenger, —Kurt Wright, in Ward 4 and Team threat in Ward 7— inside the Green Party if they weren't elected the Grand Old Party would lose its presence in the council. Wright edged out Democrat Carol Ode winning 5,000 votes to Ode's 3,000.

For Treast, the real struggle appears to have been less ideological—Was it 7 years spent for Democrat, William LeGrand, who put 700 votes in Treast's 602. Legrand, who came to Bellingham just after 11 as a refugee from Communist North Vietnam, said she had found her first job to persuade a young communist in 1962.

The gun control measures won't be large margins, but some voters split the



Chris Deniak
sits for the dance
to measure
his waistline,
which is
an awkward
situation for
him. He is
a bit of a
nerve wreck,
but he is
a good
dancer.



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facing facts



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WILLIAM B. GUNDEL

The Shelden administration wants to ease permitting to promote development in Vermont's downstate areas.



GROUP 10

SHUNIN
The latest round of Eilat negotiations was only a third the size of last year's. In this big blow-blow of



18 That's how many dead animals were found at Santa-Lucia's Pottery. The park's owner and manager, Corralles, was cited for animal cruelty. (Don

TOP FIVE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1 **Worldwide Photographer Finds Badtime in Sweden?** *by Dan Chavira* While a local insider makes it a regular western rule "don't drink and drive," a Swedish photographer has found a different way to get drunk.
- 2 **Dispute Between Neighbors: Sorel's New Neat?** *by Al MacInnes* A fight between a new neighbor and a local resident over a new neighbor's new house in Sorel-Tracy.
- 3 **A Reporter Explores Quebec's Role in Soccer?** *by David's* Quebec's role in soccer is a topic that has been a topic of discussion at recent meetings. An experience account.
- 4 **Wishful Thinking: Are There Differences in the Market?** *by David's* Not everyone thinks that markets are a reflection of reality. Wishful thinking is keeping an eye on the future.
- 5 **Two Cases: Quebec's Role in Soccer?** *by David's* Quebec's role in soccer is a topic that has been a topic of discussion at recent meetings. An experience account.



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PULP & PAPER

ON FURTHER EXAMINATION.

Thank you for the kind words ["Vermont's Medical Examiner Knows What's Riffing Us," February 12]. However, I must point out that I am only a part of a system. The countless people who are part of every investigation are the true heroes who make it work. Our SO or so investigators, who leave their families at all hours, in all weather conditions, are the backbone of death investigations in Vermont. I can't say enough about these selfless professionals who see us after the worst times.

Our site of the tri facility and expanded storage was made possible through the support of Fletcher Allen Health Care. The funeral directors who do our transportation at all hours, the prosecutors and defense attorneys who make sure we are protecting everyone's rights, the support staff from public health and safety, the physicians who give their expertise freely, the students who keep asking questions, and the legislators who wrote our wonderful law are the real reason Vermont has one of the best systems in the country.

I don't consider any work "monotone." What I said was that in death investigation, the monotone trumps the spectacular. Most people only think of us only during the spectacular: the fiery crash, the homicides, the burning buildings. But what we do on a daily basis, investigating the sudden deaths of loved ones, is where the satisfaction lies. I feel very privileged to lead this system but understand that many others make me look good.

Steven Shapiro, MD
CO-CLINICAL

Shapiro is Vermont's chief medical examiner.

CORRECTIONS

Transgender inmate Martin Mermis was properly identified as "she" in last week's story "Sex Cells" but due to a proofreading oversight, "her" became "his" in the table of contents.

Last week's story about the North Burlington City Council race stated inaccurately that candidate Paul Engle had asked for Councilor Roseanne Greco's support. Engle said he had expected Greco's support. Also, the same story reported that Greco had posted criticisms of Engle on Facebook. Engle posted these criticisms on his own Facebook page.

LITTLE CITY HAS PROBLEMS

Cooperate. Doors on a well-written article titled "All Hands on Deck," February 19). It is a welcome sight to see something so honest and unbiased. Most critics would try to toss down the state, e.g., Glenn Feldt, NY. All this does is hide the real issue. I now live in Port Ariz and often read about the infamous drug corridor along Route 149. The road leads to Vermont through Whitchell, where I grew up, and there is also a problem there. Keep up the issue pipeline and perhaps the courts will starten up and go back to the "law" eye.

Roger McLaughlin
EXTREME AD, N.Y.

COOL COOKBOOKS

I very much enjoyed Alice Lewis's article, "Vintage Vermont Victrolas," about the St. Paul's cookbook [February 19]. Fifteen years ago in America, I was at a Florida flea market and purchased a copy of the 1938 Trinity Mission of Trinity Church (Rutland) and the Women's Service League of St. Paul's Church (Barre) cookbook. It looks much like the one in the picture in the article, handwritten and graced with sweet drawings of the various offerings I've displayed it in my kitchen ever since. The flavor of the cookbook, if you don't mind the wordplay, was certainly Depression-era, with many "milk" dishes. Some of my favorite recipe names are: Boiled Bean Hamlet, Mashing Nuts and Park Cakes. And these are in Vermont. Indeed, with their name, I was struck by how they are so different from the recipes for children and recommended for a hot day when one's appetite is jaded. Can't wait for a nice Vermont summer day to try some!

Luisa Gonzalez

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5/3 COIN 1PM
5/4 ORANGE MITCHELL 7PM

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ORCHESTRATIONS 7PM
5/6 MASH/TOMMY 8PM
5/7 MY BRANCH OF THE KNOW-NO 10PM

SUN 3/9

6/2 MASH/TOMMY 7PM
6/3 MASH/TOMMY 7PM
6/4 MASH/TOMMY 7PM
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REAL ESTATE



As much as we love nature, it's houses and apartments we live in, no? And so our fascination with the built environment is the foundation of this annual theme issue. A personal favorite subject is **HOW MUCH HOUSING COSTS**. Kevin J. Kelly took a sample of homes for sale around the state for approximately \$250K. In Burlington, Alicia Franco profiles an uber successful seller of mutually desirable dwellings. **STEVE LIPKIN** while Ken Pineda gets a tour of a building that's not selling, the former **PIKE KOSGE SCHOL**, empty since closing five years ago. And Kathryn Flagg interviews a pair of young Medford pros whose software, called **OCULUS Rift**, helps architects and their clients navigate floor plans in 3-D. Call it virtual reality.

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24 Pine Street and the Chocolate Factory

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24 A Gentle Exit

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24 Almost Famous

Music Vermont's musical scene is coming of age, and the local community is taking notice.

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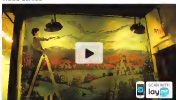
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the MAGNIFICENT

MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK

COMPILED BY COURTNEY COFF

②

WEDNESDAY 12 HOOP DREAMS

Seventy-five miles south of Indianapolis, Ind., lies the small town of Medora. There, amid cloud-strewn horizons and factories, a population of 500 struggles to survive. Andrew Cohn and Dany Rothbart's acerbic and documentary *Medora* follows the journey of the local high school basketball team, whose efforts to reemerge a losing season mirror those faced by the community at large.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 60



②

FRIDAY 07 Leading Lady

Tommy Award winner *Rebekah Laffont* is a living legend on Broadway. Recounting from their 40 years in theater, the performers' personal tales — and others that never made it — in *Scalpa, Medusa, Shogun!* (filming will depressingly feature with select films from their 40s and other musicals, like *Rebekah's* legendary dance, or a live special casting).

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 54

7

③

SATURDAY 08 Hot Shot

Foodies looking to spice things up feed the streets of downtown Mobile July 8 at the 4th annual *Vermont Chili Festival*. Music is served and vendors offer samples to the crowds. On the agenda: a night of local live music, 100+ vendors and food exhibits, and a chili cook-off at Bay Street.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 55

④

FRIDAY 07 Rattle 'n' Hum

Sipping a ginger snake slithering through the glass is one thing, but cooking scraps a similar snake is an entirely different experience. One of 17 snake species native to Vermont, these once-thriving reptiles are now endangered due to habitat loss. Wildlife biologist *Charlotte* (phonetic) Jenkins discusses a local and national conservation efforts to save the venomous viper from extinction.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 56

⑤

TUESDAY 11 Ale Tales

Whisked in widely regarded as one of the country's top producers of craft beer, New Haven's hops have taken into public competitive markets. *John Van Ratta* and *James O'Brien* did just that and returned *Moreno's* Last Night Brewery. The brewers share their story with inspiration from *James* (phonetic) Eats.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 57

⑥

SUNDAY 09 Laugh Factory

The New York Times describes *Harold* (phonetic) as the most celebrated comic alive, as being somewhere between "verbalist and sage." This quick-witted funny man is making major moves in the comedy scene — winning Comedy Central's 2012 Best Club Comic award after accolades. The summer "Tuesday Night Live" event brings side-splitting material to higher floors.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT ON PAGE 58

⑦

DANCING Beyond Brushstrokes

MAISON MARTIN MARGIELA is a work of art by the House of Martin Margiela. It's a party that's more about the creative process to make beyond mental health, design, and the imagination. The common ground is art. On view at the Metropolitan Museum, these compelling pieces serve as visual representations of abstracted efforts toward the light and discovery.

SEE STATE OF THE ARTS ON PAGE 59



TOM BRADY

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With Town Meeting Day on the horizon, we can now safely turn our attention to this fall's election season. And by that I mean: what's shaping up to be Vermont's most boring political contest in recent memory.

I know, I know. I'm getting ahead of myself. Connecticut, anything could change, yada, yada. But let's face it, folks: There's not a candidate in sight who would give Gov. **PETER SHUMLIN** a serious run for his money. And while it's still early to announce, it's getting pretty damn late to expect a credible run against an entrenched, well-financed incumbent.

Two weeks ago, fellow political columnist **JOHN MARSHALL** of VT Digger bravely reported, "The Vermont Republican party has a mystery man," writing in the wings to run for governor. Citing House minority leader **SEN. TIMOTHY J. MURPHY**, who is rumored to be "early people," Marshall seemed to think "somebody" had made "something closer to a firm commitment" to run.

No doubt there are plenty of people talking about — as more to the point, trying to get others to talk about — the possibility of their running. But, spoiler alert, the Republicans can't get neither yet.

"I think there will be a candidate," says Lt. Gov. **PAUL SEERY**, the party's sole statewide officeholder. "I still have folks who tell me as able donors in terms and their interest, but nobody is willing to commit at this point."

As to whether it's worth it for his electorally diminished party to make a serious go at the governorship, Seery says, "It's always been my belief that we should be focusing our resources on the legislative races. That's not to say we should forget about the statewide races, but that's really where we have the most to gain."

Seery's handpicked party boss, Vermont GOP chairman **DAVID MARSHALL**, agrees that the Republicans' "primary focus" should be creating their debate in the legislature. But he adds, "We're certainly also putting a significant amount of time into statewide races." Sunderland says he's heard from "several interested, strong, viable candidates" for governor, though he wouldn't name names.

"Certainly our intention is to have a strong candidate in the governor's race, and I believe we will," he says.

Compared to 2002 or 2006, at least, this year looks like a decent one for a Republican to run. Without a presidential candidate at the top of the ticket — as for that matter, he's never been — or a

he low Shumlin's offered up plenty of external, from a steady hand lead to malpractice lawsuits, for 30-second attack ads. And by blaming next year's massive tax bill to finance single-payer health care, the right candidate could certainly score the biggest win of the election.

Of course, that ignores three unignorable realities: Vermont is blue and growing bluer. Nobody's knocked off an incumbent governor in the state since **FRANK RAY** in 1962. And though the connections he made in chairman of the Democratic Governors Association, Shumlin has the capacity to raise a tremendous amount of money.

Another problem?

CERTAINLY OUR INTENTION IS
TO HAVE A STRONG CANDIDATE
IN THE GOVERNOR'S RACE,
AND I BELIEVE WE WILL.

DAVID SUNDERLAND

Name of the Republicans' three top prospects — Seery, former lieutenant governor **EDDIE BAKER** and former governor **JIM DOUGLAS** — appear to be hankering for a run. All three have won multiple statewide races, are well known by voters, could attract investment by the Republican Governors Association and might inspire Shumlin's business associates to defect.

But Douglas, who retired in 2000 after eight years as governor and decades of public service before that, says, "No, I think it's important to pass the baton. Somebody said, 'The sequel is never as good as the original.'"

Seery, a four-term life guy who lost to Shumlin by just 1,131 votes in 2000, has disappeared from the political scene and declined several interview requests.

And Seery, who's well known as an up-and-coming moderate, continues to maintain that he plans only to seek reelection.

"I don't have this lifelong dream of being governor or somebody in higher office," he says. "I'm not saying that I'll never do it, but I just don't feel the timing is right for me at this point. And it may not be over 11 years, but I don't know."

That leaves a pair of potential second-tier candidates, either of whom will say yes or no to the prospect: former state auditor and senator **EDDIE BAKER** and Campaign for Vermont Governor **MARK LEMAY**.

While Baker has been "not made any decisions," he occasionally sounds like

a guy who's already in the race. Addressing Vermont's half-century death of incumbent deficits, for instance, Brock says, "That means it's about due. The numbers are with me."

Brock certainly has some compelling arguments: He was the first to publicly predict and warn the voters of Vermont's fiscal problems last September. And his emphasis on the state's infrastructure problems, which worsened year after year during his failed 2002 gubernatorial bid, now seems prescient.

Brock's smart guy, but his last campaign was underhanded and unprincipled. Shumlin barely lifted a finger — except when he was dining for dollars — and still managed to trounce Brock 56 to 40 percent.

As for Lemay, he continues to act surprised when asked whether he's making a run, even though he keeps doing precisely what one would do to gear up for one: He's been in the state's political advisory group, appearing occasionally in paid and earned media and well, declining to make it out.

"I don't have any plans," he says. "Nothing's changed. Except more people talk."

While the former co-head of global equities at Bear Stearns clearly has the cash to burn on his own campaign, his opponent would go to town on his Wall Street tenure, which came to an inglorious end not long after his firm collapsed during the 2008 financial crisis.

Nevertheless, a candidate with some dough — like Lemay or Brock, who dropped \$300,000 on his last bid — could be appealing to the cash-strapped GOP. That's free up party resources for down-ballot races, while generating at least a modicum of interest at the top. And while self-funders typically crash and burn — see **BOB THURMAN** and **JACK MCHUGH** — one old-fashioned campaign example is Shumlin himself, whose \$270,000 loss in his own 2003 campaign showed him to be a TV shy early and distinguish himself as a credible Democratic pick.

Plenty of other names have been tossed around this winter, including Senate minority leader **SEN. ROBERT BLOOM** (R-Colchester) and Rep. **PATRIK MURPHY** (R-Daniel), both of whom are talented and respected moderates. But their name recognition outside the Statehouse is nil. Others, such as former lieutenant gubernatorial candidate **MARK WELSH** and retired City Treasurer **DAVID WELSH**, say they're not interested in the top job.

The Vermont Progressive party, meanwhile, doesn't have a chairman. Its leaders don't seem eager to distance themselves

from winning more seats in the legislature, and as obvious candidates have emerged.

"Shanley has given us a lot of things to make us consider running against him," says Progressive Party chairwoman **EMMA HUGHES CURTIS**. "But we haven't had anyone leap in the chance to run for governor."

REP. CHRIS PIERCE (Burlington), who chairs the House Progressive caucus, says that while Shanley alienated liberals last winter by threatening cuts to programs that help low-income Vermonters, the governor has since changed his tone. And, Pierce

points out,

"Shanley is not looking down on universal health care, and that has been a priority for us, and it's something we can't put down."

POLITICS

While the gubernatorial race looks like a toss-up, there's always the chance that a down-ballot contest could heat up. One always place to look would be the lieutenant governor's office, which Democrats would surely like to snatch. Why not take Scott out before he runs higher? Especially given that he lost 2012 opponent, Democrat and Progressive **CANDACE GUNAK**, won 40 percent of the vote with little money, negligible party support and zero name recognition.

Scott-Kane campaigners have been flouting the notion of House Speaker **JEFF SMITH** (D-Montpelier) making a bid for LG in order to set himself up for another statewide run down the road. But asked about a last word, Smith emphatically replied, "I'm not running for lieutenant governor."

According to the Standard, the GOP has its eyes on the two most junior statewide officeholders: Democratic State Treasurer **BETH PIERCE** and Democratic/Progressive State Auditor **DAVID HOFFMAN**, both of whom proved as tough campaigns in 2012. And Mahoney-Stanak says the Props might challenge Scott, Pierce or Democratic Attorney General **MA. WHELAN**. Neither party offered up any names.

Wilson, who lost to Pierce 41 to 52 percent, says she has "not made any decisions" about a run for the treasurer's office.

If this dental campaign season ever gets off the ground, it likely won't be until the legislative session in May. But we might at least get some clues on March 15, when candidates will have to file their next handouts and spending reports.

Here's hoping for the sake of political observers' continued employment, there'll be something to write about.

Media Notes

Some of the most compelling — and sensational — coverage of Vermont's open problem has come not from the newsmen of Vermont but from a dweller in Brooklyn.

Last September, long before Gov. Shanley delivered his now-famous State of the State address on open access, **UNA COHEN** and **PAULINA PILLER** filed a free search

suit for their mother, Vermont to write about the state for Vice magazine.

"We were talking about how every time we go back and visit people in Vermont, we hear more and more about friends of ours and acquaintances who got into heroin," Cohen says.

Their story, called "Bloody Mountain State," prompted a viral link in the life of addicts and dealers in Vermont, and the story went viral when it was published in December.

After Shanley's speech set off an explosion of media coverage, *Politico Magazine* asked Cohen to write a personal essay about drugs in Vermont — and her own quest to rehab for cocaine addiction — which was titled, "New Old Myth: Vermont Becomes America's Heroin Capital?" Last Thursday, she was featured on NPR's "Told Me More."

Cohen, who writes under the pen name "Gina Tron," moved to Barre when she was 9 and, after attending college in Montreal, spent three years working in production at WCAE-TV. In 2008, she moved to New York City and, until last December, worked for New Evangelicalism Television, a Catholic TV station.

Cohen says she's been a reluctant chronicler of all the state's drug problems, because she doesn't want to give the place a bad rap.

But it's hard to make a change unless you can admit what's going on," she says. When the *Tribune* Coen shared with NPR was this: "Some of the reports told me that Vermont has always been an opiate state. Given back in the 1840s, farmers' wives would use opiate to lull off of cope with long, boring winters. So Vermont always seemed to have its downers."

Cohen readily acknowledges she's an expert on the numbers and relies for more on anecdotes than epidemiology. She says she did not approve *Politico*'s headline for her story and doesn't know that the agency was its premise.

But Coen contends that she likes to tackle subjects that might make others uncomfortable. Not long after the Newcomer school entrance, Coen wrote a story for *Vice* about how Spaulding High School officials had suspects in her of plotting her own school shooting in 1999 after she and a friend signed a note to another girl, "The Trunkshot Mads."

Last summer, she wrote an agonizing story about her experience trying to bring to justice a man who actually murdered her. And she's currently writing a memoir of her time in rehab and in a psych ward.

"I'm really an open-book person," she says. "And I feel like if I can't be honest about things, people can't learn from their mistakes." ☐

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Bus Fair? CCTA Drivers Get Ready to Strike

BY MARK DAVIS | PHOTOS BY OLIVER PARINI

By some measures, the Chittenden County Transportation Authority and its drivers have never had it better. Ridership has grown 60 percent in the past decade, and drivers avoided layoffs and got raises every year during the recession.

And yet, for the second straight contract negotiation cycle, talks between employees and management have turned bitter, creating the possibility that CCTA could soon call its first-ever strike, throwing the daily lives of thousands of riders into disarray in the midst of a harsh winter.

Drivers, represented by Teamsters Local 567, overwhelmingly rejected CCTA's most recent contract offer. On February 19th they staged a press conference and rally in Church Street to draw management's negotiating positions and are threatening to strike as early as mid-March.

CW Morris-Brown, a retired CCTA driver who was involved in previous labor negotiations and remains connected to the current union leadership, says a strike is likely.

"It would be an eye opener," Brown says. "It's important the public understand why these guys are striking and once they figure out why, they're going to say, 'Go on, management!'"

Union local Bob Stengerhead and Terry St. Hilare, the union's designated business agent, did not respond to numerous phone calls and emails seeking comment for this story but release driver Terry LaRue said, "I'm ready to go on strike. The administration is being totally stubborn, not to make things difficult."

CCTA General Manager Bill Watterson and the agency and the union are scheduled to have a bargaining session this weekend, during which he would likely be offering the drivers a new proposal.

"CCTA is prepared to try to find a way forward," Watterson said. "We have been clear about our goals. That has not been misinterpreted. A lot of people do depend on us, and we appreciate the fact that they do, and we're going to do the best we can to not have a work stoppage."

Watching the developments nearby are a slew of local institutions and leaders, who say they have only begun to contemplate how they would adjust if CCTA's fleet recedes in the parking lot.



Passengers board the CCTA buses on Cherry St.

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In an emailed statement, Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger said, "My administration is having planning discussions about how to proceed in the unfortunate event negotiations are not successful."

Watterson deflected questions about whether his agency would be able to keep buses running or whether that might involve bringing in other, non-union drivers in the event of a strike.

"We're going to make that determination when the time comes. I'm not going to talk about that."

For people who rely on CCTA to get to work, the grocery store and the doctor, the consequences of a strike would be grave.



Paul LaCotte has worked for CCTA for 25 years.

Melvin Pero doesn't have a car and takes a one-hour, two-bus ride every day from his home in Winooski to the Fleets Depot in Williston, where he works in the garden department. His wife is due to give birth in mid-March.

If drivers strike, Pero said he would either have to walk to Williston or pay a friend to drive him. Without running buses, he said, "I'm screwed."

Long Workdays

Chartered by the legislature in 1973, CCTA spent its first three decades building and serving a tight network of routes in the Burlington area. In the last decade, however, the nonprofit expanded

beginning in 2003, it began covering Burlington-based commuters from more distant communities, primarily via its LINK service. The bus service grew into Montpelier, then Middlebury, St. Albans and Milton. Most recently, in October, CCTA launched a route to Jeffersonville.

In 2011, CCTA took over operations of the Green Mountain Transit Agency, which had primarily served communities in central Vermont. CCTA is funded by various sources: Roughly 45 percent comes from federal and state grants, 35 percent from member communities, including Burlington, and 17 percent from passenger fares.

The expansion has increased ridership by nearly 75 percent since 2000, to 2.7 million annual rides.

The first public sign of trouble between the organization and the union, which represents 71 full-time drivers and one part-timer, came in 2010. It took three mediation sessions for the two sides to agree on a contract.

That agreement expired in the summer, after which OCTA and its drivers participated in 30 bargaining sessions over four months. By all accounts, they didn't come close to a deal. (Drivers are currently working under the terms of the old contract.) Each side then agreed to appoint a neutral facilitator, meeting with him shortly before Thanksgiving.

In early January, the facilitator recommended the terms of a contract, which OCTA took as the foundation of its offer to drivers. The union shot it down in a 50-4 vote in early February. A 15-hour negotiating session several days later did not result in a new agreement.

What are the issues?

Surprisingly, pay and benefits aren't among them. Starting drivers make around \$42,000 a year. With experience, which is often necessary, according to agency documents, annual pay can be more than \$45,000.

OCTA drivers are mostly frustrated by their workplace conditions and schedules—particularly split shifts.

The expansion of commuter routes means work opportunities are clustered in the morning and evening, with a quiet lull in between. To cope, OCTA, like many transit companies, asks drivers to work the morning commute, go home for several hours, then return for the evening commute.

The expansion of those shifts has proved disruptive, according to union reps.

"The split shifts are ridiculous," said retired driver Laker. "These guys don't have any life."

Drivers say split shifts are made worse by OCTA's poor scheduling practices. Instead of letting drivers help craft the bus schedules, the company relies on a software program that dictates shifts that drivers say are inconsistent and unworkable.

For example, drivers complain that—even after working split shifts—they

regularly come up a few hours short of a 40-hour workweek. By then, they must make up the remaining hours, either by extending a shift or claiming some of the leftover time created by sick days or scheduling holes.

"They couldn't do away with split shifts, but they could reduce it," said driver Sherry Ribbenier. "There needs to be fewer of them. I'm all over the place, every day. That's what we're screaming about. They really need to do something with the drivers' schedules."

But Watkinson said there is little his agency can do given the needs of its ridership at opposite ends of the day.

"These jobs are split-shift kind of jobs. That's the reality," Watkinson said. "Having a split shift can be challenging. The people who come to us for jobs, that is the reality to expect what their work lives can be. If someone convinces that as problematic—and I respect that it might be for some people—it's probably not the right job for them."

In recent years, OCTA has sought to increase the "spread time," the number of hours between when a driver's first shift begins and last shift ends. Its negotiations, the union reluctantly agreed to expand (its spread from 12 hours to 15.5 hours, but demanded in exchange that OCTA surrender the right to hire part-time drivers, which it viewed as a threat to the long-term stability of full-time jobs, according to the facilitator's report).

OCTA wants to be able to hire up to seven part-timers.

Drivers have other complaints. At the press conference, union officials said that management had shortened breaks for drivers—the only time they can use the bathroom during a shift. They also faulted OCTA for filing written reports about the transit infractions, such as being a couple of minutes late, and creating a hostile work environment.

Watkinson said none of those complaints were voiced in the bargaining session. He said he learned about them through union comments to the media.

"It boils down to management style. 'Get way on the highway, lots of people waiting for your job,'" Narra-Brown said. "Pushing drivers down instead of collaborating. OCTA doesn't like the union. They would like to have all at-will



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Power Play: Developers Race to Run Lines Under Lake Champlain and Beyond

BY KATHRYN FLADD

Large hydroelectric dams in the north of Québec are generating energy that is abundant and cheap. New England states and New York are clamoring for clean power that will help meet ambitious goals to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The push to get Canadian juice flowing south is generating a number of transnational projects in the northern New England region — wary conservationists have nicknamed it the “railroad wars,” a reference to the race to construct railroads crisscrossing the country in the 19th century.

Christophe Courchesne, a staff attorney with the Conservation Law Foundation in New Hampshire, compared “this phase of the energy development” to the “Wild West.”

Vermont isn’t the target customer for all of this power; it’s largely intended for more populated parts. But the Green Mountain State could serve as the gateway — a prospect that has some in Vermont asking, “How will it benefit us?”

Just as developers are charging at the bit to get under way, a few critics are raising concerns about the environmental impacts of large-scale hydropower. Others worry that by flooding New England’s electricity market with cheap hydroelectricity, the new transnational lines could discourage development of renewable energy projects closer to home.

CLF’s Vermont director, Chris Kilham, suspects that the construction of the proposed transmission projects could happen rapidly — within a matter of years — which is “pretty fast” in the power sector.

He encourages Vermonters to pay attention, and not just because the state could be a throughfare for the north-south power lines.

“They’re representative of a very important transformation in our electric power system,” said Kilham.

The project cluster to home is also one of the newest on the scene. If approved, the New England Clean Power Link would carry electricity an estimated 150 miles from the Canadian border to Lunenburg, Vermont, through two buried, six-inch-wide cables. Approximately



300 miles of the line would be installed four feet under Lake Champlain. The rest would be buried beneath dry land, largely in existing rights of way.

The Clean Power Link comes with a \$1.2 billion price tag. That would be borne by the developer, Transmission Developers Inc., which is backed by a private equity group, the Macdonald Group.

TDI is also behind the Champlain Hudson Power Express, a similar project that will ferry power from Canada to the Big Apple via lines under the Hudson River and the New York side of Lake Champlain. New York approved the project last year, and TDI expects the line to be in service by the fall of 2013.

“We were listening to what the market

was telling us,” said Dan Josselyn, TDI’s chief executive officer.

What he was hearing was that New England governors were hungry for more Canadian hydropower — primarily because that power could cut carbon dioxide emissions in their states. New England’s fossil-fuel plants are aging. Twenty-eight coal- and gas-fired plants — representing more than 25 percent of the region’s electricity generating capacity — will be close to retirement by the end of the decade. Natural gas already comprises nearly 50 percent of New England’s total electricity generation, observers warn too much reliance on a single source of electricity could be problematic for the region.

Vermont Yankee was the “last place that fell into place,” said Josselyn. When TDI heard that the nuclear plant would be going offline later this year, the developers saw an opportunity to “take all the knowledge we learned in New York and convert it into a project for the New England power market.”

Vermont Department of Public Service Commissioner Chris Recchia said that if Vermont ends up hosting a transmission project, he and the DPS will make sure it’s a good deal for this state. The Clean Power Link will need to earn a certificate of public good before any construction can begin. Recchia said the state could benefit from the tax revenues of such a project. It would also

Carving the Commute: Crossing Lake Champlain in Winter

BY AUCIA FRIESE

Lake Champlain is frozen all the way across for the first time since 2007. But that hasn't stopped two boats from traversing it, all day, every day.

The Lake Champlain Transportation Company operates three ferry crossings, two of which now stay open year-round. The ice-breaking boat that plies the waters between Grand Isle and Plattsburgh runs 24/7. The southern crossing, between Charlotte and Essex, N.Y., departs Vermont hourly from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Before 1988, this route was seasonal, but with a few exceptions, LCT has kept it operational through the winter, citing travel for commuters who use the boat to get to and from work.

Last Wednesday, seven cars maneuvered onto the ferry in Charlotte. Biting winds there, the passengers likely heard the sound of the vessel's steel bow crunching through ice as the ferry pulled away from the dock.

Up in the boat's pilothouse, classical music was playing. Len Caggio, of Richmond, was at the helm as what turned out to be a windy overcast, 20-degree day. She sported a black knit cap, white turtleneck, a black sweater adorned with gold gold-captain's stripes on each shoulder and a pair of Ray-Bans to protect against the sun's glare.

The ferry company employs about 30 captains. Caggio is one of six women who hold that title. Her water happens to be married to Capt. Richard Phillips of private capture fame, but five days before the couple was caught on camera at the Oscars, Caggio was too intent on ice conditions and boat anatomy to rethink her brother-in-law's adventures.

"He's gotten his share of media attention already," she said with a laugh.

During the summer, two boats work the Charlotte crossing at one time, transporting 800 passengers a day, according to Caggio's estimate. In the winter, one boat shuttles between 300 and 200, she said. Built in 1951, the vessel is one year older than she is.

Caggio guided the ferry toward a channel of open water—roughly 100 feet wide with ice on either side—between Vermont and New York. Leaving the Charlotte shore, it plowed through the frazzled fragments that had accumulated



around the dock—what Caggio calls “locktailies.”

Steering one of two wagon-wheel-size helms, she was eager to clarify some misconceptions. First, the United States Coast Guard does not carve out this channel for the ferry, second, “There are no true ice breakers on this lake.”

“True ice breakers” are boats with bows capable of cutting through frozen surfaces or engines that can act as ice-smashing hammers. The boat that connects Grand Isle and Plattsburgh is equipped with a bubbler to prevent ice buildup. But the 85-ton Essex-Charlotte ferry, coarsely called the *Grand Isle*, has none of these accoutrements.

How does the modest boat clear a path for itself? It leads off ice simply by traveling back and forth in the same liquid strait. The ferry does have a strong piece of steel called a “skag” that prevents ice from interfering with the rudder, and it can cut aside frozen chunks using its prop wash.

Some mornings, the first run is an ice-breaking one, and the pilot has to

**HOW DOES THE MODEST
BOAT CLEAR A PATH
FOR ITSELF?
IT FENDS OFF ICE
SIMPLY BY TRAVELING
BACK AND FORTH IN THE
SAME LIQUID STRAIT.**

Hundreds of ducks—hooded mergansers, mallards and common goldeneyes—are camped out in the channel this winter, drawn to the open water. When the boat approaches, they take flight en masse; after it passes, they cluster again in the after-chase. Caggio describes herself as a novice birder, but she's got her ducks down. She keeps a birding book and a pair of binoculars in the cramped pilothouse.

Late in the afternoon, she spotted an eagle—a black swallow in the distance, sitting on the ice with shoulders hunched.

Caggio got her captain's license in 1992, a process that entails spending at least 365 days on a boat and passing a written test. Prior to that, she worked exclusively as a deckhand for LCT and, before that, spent eight years at a bank.

Plainspoken and practical, Caggio said, “Yeah, they’re using a duck” exploring the eagle’s predatory habits. But calling “articulated dog and burger” and “honeycombed ice” she sounded down-right poetic.



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Bus Fair? 4/10

employees, which any company would, and more part-time drivers. They don't like things being demanded from them. The drivers fight back."

Can't Get There From Here

Drivers say they hope the public will support them. But on a recent weekday morning ride on the No. 2 line from Burlington to Essex Junction, riders seemed less interested in picking sides than in how their own buses would be speeded by a strike.

The bus line runs by several big local employers — the University of Vermont, Saint Michael's College and Fletcher Allen Health Care — and working class neighborhoods in Woodstock and Essex Junction. Many of the people who get on board say the No. 2 is a lifeline.

Several riders were reading on route last Thursday morning. Others, young and old, bowed their heads toward smartphones, looking up only when they knew their stop was approaching.

Jodi Anderson rides the bus every day to get to classes at the University of Vermont from her home in Essex Junction. A senior African studies major, she has her first classes late in the morning on a timetable that will work with her one-hour commute, she walks 15 minutes to the bus station, and the ride to campus takes another 45.

When it's the bus Anderson said, "I'd be in trouble."

Rosemary Cunningham uses the bus to go shopping and to keep medical



appointments. Her daughter helps when she can, but she has a full-time job.

Mike Kaseit and his family don't have a car. The Burlington resident takes the bus to Price Chopper, to physical therapy appointments in Essex Junction, and just about everywhere else. His 7-year-old daughter rides it to school.

"If you want to go anywhere," Kaseit said, "it's the only way."

About half of the Burlington School District's children rely on ACTA buses to get to school. Superintendent Jeanne Collins and her office has only recently begun contemplating how it would respond to a strike. The district might try to lease rental buses from other districts, but that could be costly, she said, and it is unclear how many bus hours would be available halfway through the school year. They may also set up carpooling arrangements.

"We're doing our due diligence," Collins said.

At the Howard Center in downtown Burlington, many clients rely on buses to get to counseling, substance-abuse treatment and other services. Bob Rick, director of mental health and substance-abuse services, said he and his colleagues are monitoring the unfolding situation. Neither the bus company nor the union has reached out to them.

"I would hope that we could receive some definitive advance notice if there will be a disruption in service," Rick said, "to allow us to try and minimize the impact."

Mayor Weinberger initially agreed to an interview about the negotiations but, citing "the sensitivity of collective bargaining, negotiations, and the fact that the city is not a participant in those negotiations," sent a statement and declined additional comment. ☐

Contact: mario@sevendaystv.com

Power Play 4/10

just going to write off renewables as a niche market."

Quebec's leaders have, in recent years, rolled out an ambitious plan for providing the northern reaches of the province, which include additional hydroelectricity generation, mining and resource extraction.

CEPs Kiffin said Hydro Quebec is lobbying in states like Massachusetts and Connecticut for large-scale hydroelectricity to meet tomorrow's renewable portfolio standards. RPSs, as they're known in industry shorthand, require electricity-supply companies to produce a certain percentage of their electricity from renewable energy sources. They can meet those standards by buying energy

certificates from certified generation facilities, such as wind or solar farms.

But large-scale hydropower is cheaper than wind or solar power. If that power qualified for various RPSs, say critics like Kiffin, the incentive to build smaller-scale, local renewable energy projects would evaporate.

"Yes, it is true that just on a sort of by definition basis, hydropower, water power, is a renewable fuel," Kiffin said, but including large-scale hydro, he believes, "undermines, and arguably even creates, the purpose of the renewable portfolio standards."

Last month, two Massachusetts lawmakers introduced legislation that would, for the first time, classify large-scale hydroelectricity as renewable energy. The bills backers, including

Gov. Deval Patrick's administration, say hydroelectricity needs to be part of the mix if the state is going to meet its goal of cutting greenhouse-gas emissions 25 percent below 1990 levels by 2020.

Nevertheless, though it doesn't have RPSs, has already categorized big hydro as "renewable."

Joeanne agrees that small-scale renewable projects are important — but argues hydro generation, which can be ramped up or down quickly and easily, fits nicely with intermittent power generation sources such as wind and solar. If New England states want to meet the goals they've set for cutting greenhouse-gas emissions, Joeanne said, "hydro has to be part of the story" ☐

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Kit Rivers Searches for Signs of Intelligent Life at Off Center

BY XIAN CHANG WARREN

KIT RIVERS is best known as the Burlington area's first standup comic. The Saint Michael's College senior broke into the local comedy scene during her freshman year and hasn't stopped performing since. "I was always sort of secretly looking for an outlet that I didn't know was standup comedy," Rivers says. "The first time I did standup it was because I had funny things to say, and it was a form of performance I hadn't tried yet. But... I always tell people I'm a far better actor than I am a comedian."

As a theater major, she's had opportunities to demonstrate her dramatic skills, appearing in such college productions as *Home and Away* and *The Art of Dying*. Last summer, Rivers showed up in VERMONT STAGE COMPANY's "Bake Off" production of *The 25 Steps*.

This weekend, she'll merge student and professional performance — and drama and comedy — when she stages her senior work at Burlington's off center FOR THE FURIOUS AGES. It's Jane Wagner's *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, a two-hour, one-woman, solo written for and made famous by actor and comedian Lily Tomlin. Tomlin won a Tony for the show's Broadway run in 1966 and starred in the 1968 film version.

Rivers was a "theater kid" with years of acting experience, she says, before she dove into the world of standup. During her college years, she alternated between actual theatrical productions and regular comedy gigs — open mics, paying shows and making fools at social events such as the Putnam Core in New England and Vermont's Putnam Core. "I never stopped doing either of them, and comedy opened up my way to professional theater work," Rivers says. Yet she acknowledges that standup took a lot of her attention. "It was only in this last year of college that I was like, 'Oh, right. I'm a theater major,'" Rivers jokes.

Performing Search will show Rivers at show — and stretch — her theater talents. The show has nearly a dozen

fully developed characters whose story lines intersect through the central figure of Trudy, a really vocal, naive Times Square bag lady who communicates with extraterrestrial life forms via an unusual invention of her own unlikely invention. Trudy's life also intersects with those of other castlings, including a runaway teenager, a prostitute being interviewed by a student for his graduate thesis and a drill sergeant. The play's feminist reputation comes from these female characters, whom the audience sees at pivotal moments of the women's movement — but Wagner never makes them political mouthpieces.

"The beauty of Jane Wagner's writing is that she writes all these characters without any judgment," Rivers says.

Search is not, she points out, your typical solo show. "It's a different type of theater," Rivers explains. "One-woman or one-man shows are usually just a series of monologues. This is a play. It's a play with characters that grow and interact and have storylines."

The performer carrying the show must switch constantly among dozens of distinct voices, ages and emotional states. It's a daunting feat for an actor of any age. Tomlin was in her mid-forties and an accomplished professional when Wagner wrote the piece for her. Rivers, who is 22, notes that older women usually perform the piece.

"In a way, my age has always been my Achilles' heel," says Rivers, the youngest of five children. But she insists that the play's feminist aspects make it especially appropriate for a young woman to take on. "With all the women's issues in today's headlines, and this reverse progression of old white men [in political power], I think there's value in a young female voice bringing up these issues that really haven't been dealt with," she says.

Another challenge. The play is set in New York in the mid-1980s, so second-wave feminism was beginning to decline. It was a time and place that Wagner and Tomlin knew well. Rivers, an Indiana



native from a later generation, does not, she says, she relied heavily on her director, **MARY LOUISE MAGNUSON**, to help her flesh out the historical and cultural markers embedded in the script.

"She didn't know about the '60s and '70s, the women's movement and what things were like then," says Magnuson, a St. Michael's theater alum who has remained involved with the department over the years and is a board operator at VERMONT PUBLIC BAKING. "It was like, [in the 60s] Post-it Notes were new! At times [working on the play], I felt like the oldest living person in the world," she adds.

Performing Search puts Rivers outside her comedic comfort zone. She relishes the comic opportunities and witty zingers in the script. While some of her more abrupt onstage switches carry a trace of silliness, she has an impressive vocal and physical range that she and Magnuson refuse to let falter — no two characters feel the same. And parts of Wagner's script are downright heartwrenching.

"There are characters with hearts of gold, and they're the most dismissed,"

Rivers says. She and Magnuson took the time to unpack the heavier parts of the script. Rivers says the "character development and, like, heart work" were the most rewarding — and challenging — parts of her process.

In a way, though, she's been rehearsing Search a long time. Rivers first performed sections of the play in high school, when she developed a few of its comic monologues for a humorous interpretation competition as her school's speech team. "I loved the piece," Rivers remembers. "I was this little liberal feminist in Indiana. I've always had an interest in the whole piece and never really had a platform or a way to do it. Now, coming up as my senior work, it made sense that it would be my capstone [performance]." ☐

INFO

The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe, written by Jane Wagner, directed by Mary Louise Magnuson, performed by Kit Rivers. Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2, 7:30 p.m., at Off Center for the Performing Arts in Burlington. \$5-10 at the door. offcentervt.com

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Would a harried single man feel tempted to answer to the unorthodox classified ad? That's the premise of *The Nanman*, a now self-published novel from Vermont author **ERIC J. BEST**. Best has been putting out a gritty futuristic series called *The D Generation*, so this high-concept, rambling comedy set in Burlington is a major change of pace for him. It's also surprisingly charming.

"The guy who placed the ad—while he was busy"—is Doc Demels, a devoted stay-at-home dad who's well just deserted him and took the kids with her. He needs an income. First, *The Nanman* is a glimpse enough to tell him is *Circle D* (Brent), a stressed-out professional whose husband pulled a similar disappearing act—only he left her with three rowdy kids and no nanny. Logistically, they're a match made in heaven. (Romantically well, that takes more time.)

It sounds like a Jennifer Aniston movie: Little book, grandma Super Dad! (Doc lectures Circle on the virtues of rawly) transforms battle urban woman and her hectoring, unlike most men, can win them, though Best gives her central characters enough

emotional depth and sassy repartee to have believable chemistry. Both are reluctant to jump into love after failed marriages, and neither is willing around to be "transformed" by a perfect partner.

The book has serious undertone: a too-fast makes a convincing argument for dads who choose to stay home, backed with parenting cred. (A passage where Doc catalogs the different species of men at his French boys' from "passive" to "hyper-assertive" is particularly amusing.) The author eschews stereotypes about men and women in favor of frank reflections on the difficulties of a homebound parent, of either sex, relating to one who spends all day in a fast-paced, exciting workplace. Doc wanders if his wife left him because he'd become soft and "passive." Like the traditional housewife, "Nanman" was to move in the land of society's best writers. But what was the solution: go back to the fields?

Given the complexity of these concerns, it's unfortunate that Doc becomes across as a cardboard villain. The book has other flaws that could be fixed by a rigorous edit, but overall, it's a book worth read with surprising insight for its genre, and Best is a writer to watch.

Before Chittenden County filed with type. A professional debating the benefits of raw milk, large sections of it was practically rural. Among them was Wood Road in Essex, where **MAKER** moved in 1961 and still lives today. The reline reminisces about his decades on the gritty road—where he raised "one home-invaluable daughter" and six adopted kids—in a self-published series of essays called *The Wood Road Chronicles*, many originally published in the *Essex Reporter*. Whether Censen is relating old-timers stories about the Great Flood of 1907 or waxing eloquent on the many uses of duct tape, his vintage Vermont

HARDY HARRISON

INFO

The Nanman by Eric J. Best, Left of Pluto, 272 pages, \$14.95 print/\$24.95 ebook

The Wood Road Chronicles by David Censen, Greenleaf, 140 pages, \$9.99 print, \$11.99 ebook

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At the Howard Center, an Arts Collective Engages Clients and Staff Alike

BY ETHAN DE SEIFE

Nested deep in some newspapers' obituary pages a few weeks ago was a notice about the passing of 86-year-old Edith Kremer in Vienna, the city of her birth, on February 22. Along with the psychologist Margaret Naumburg, Kremer was one of the founders of soil leading figures in the field of art therapy, a treatment that encourages people to use the creative process to work through emotional conflicts.

In her personal website, Kremer wrote in a kind of mission statement: "My therapeutic method is as old as mankind. Since human society has existed, the arts have helped men to reconcile the eternal conflict between the individual's instinctual urges and the demands of society. This, all art is therapeutic in the broadest sense of the word." Indeed, one of the great successes of art therapy is that its central ideas no longer seem particularly controversial. Making art can help us work through our emotional difficulties.

As it happens, Edith Kremer had a Vermont connection: she delivered a commencement address at and received an honorary art therapy doctorate from



From Queens, Rachel & Virginia Bryant; Pough Keaton; Lynette, Ben Leland

Morehead University in 1986. Her teachings and philosophy live on in, among other places, a show that has just opened at the Burlington Properties' **SPACED** gallery in Burlington.

"March Forth" is the pleasing and appropriate name of the exhibit, which features artworks created by clients and

employees of the mental health and substance abuse wing of the Howard Center. This is the third such gallery show in a little more than a year, each of them organized by **BRYANT PUGH**, 36, head of the **HOWARD CENTER ARTS COLLECTIVE**.

"The show is unusual in its inclusivity. 'We are all going to be turned away,' says



and first organized by Edith Kremer

Pugh, a Howard Center mental health residential counselor, so long as a client or employee of the facility produced it. Each show has been larger than the previous one. While Burlington's **SPACE GALLERY** featured about 60 works last November, "March Forth" has more than 100—mostly paintings and a few sculptural works.

Aria Code: Green Mountain Opera Festival Throws a Musical Fundraiser

BY AMY LILLY

Celebrities in the waiting parlor, opera singers upstairs. The **2011 ARTS AND MUSIC FUNDRAISER** in Watford will once again host the **GREEN MOUNTAIN OPERA FESTIVAL's** annual gala.

Besides eating funds for one of Vermont's 260 resident opera companies—the one with an extremely strong singing program—the gala is a festive evening centered on beautiful voices and ridiculously good food. (The latter will be prepared by Ronald Barr executive chef **CHARLIE HUNTER**.) This year's event is called *La Fata delle Montagne*, Italian for "the faerie in the mountains."

"We just wanted to dress it up a little," explains the festival's artistic director, **BRUCE STEVENS**, by phone from his New York City home.

Not that attendees are expected to dress up—this is Vermont, after all.

Stevens just wants everyone to have fun in a casual setting, he says. Last year, he and organizer **BARA DONALDSON** of Watford let jettisoned the previous years' formal seating arrangements and set up food stations around the bar's second floor, allowing diners to mix. The singers, accompanied by Stevens on piano, "punctuated" the evening with arias and Broadway tunes. This year's gala will reprise that format.

The gala comes two months ahead of GMOP's ninth season, which will begin on May 27 with open master classes, small-scale performances and open rehearsals at venues around the Mad River Valley. This year's 17 emerging artists, including two pianists and one stage director, were chosen from a pool of 425 applicants. The season culminates in performances on June 30 through 22 of

Benjamin Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* by the emerging artists and of Rossini's *Le Comte Ory* (Donizetti) by a professional cast.

When Stevens chose those operas, he was unaware that the **OPERA COMPANY OF VERMONT**, the state's other company, had settled on Rossini's *Il Talismano in Algeri* (*The Arabian Girl in Algeria*) for its fully staged opera this year. Stevens jokes that audiences hitting both houses this summer will have a "Rossini sandwich." Britten's chilling retelling of the sixth-century BC story bookended by the two Italian comedies.

"The music at this month's gala, how ever, won't come from either GMOP opera. Instead, selections will include rethink hits from *Boyz n the Hood*, *West Side Story* and the like. That program is partly tailored to the voices of the evening's



Stevens April 2011



The collective benefited from donations, as well as a lot of off-site **REINOLD** architect with the Burlington firm **SMITH** **REINHOLD** **REINHOLD** and **REINHOLD** and curator of the Flyingdog gallery had a three-week gap in his schedule and donated use of the space during that time to the collective. Alvarez also donated funds

to have the show's March 18 reception catered by the on-site Chef's Corner South End.

Tom Casiano, an intense 28-year-old from Essex Junction, has more formal artistic training than the other artists who meet to talk with Renee Day about this story. He studied art and received awards for his work while a student at Johnson State College. Several has exhibited his paintings in various venues around Burlington. He isn't specific about what brought him to the HowardCenter—he says he feels “trapped” by societal pressures—but his artworks speak with a strong voice. They're rich in religious imagery and bold colors and, though balanced compositionally, are composed of many discrete fragments.

Less complex but compelling in their homotypic simplicity are the digitally created ink-and-paper compositions of **JOHN GILLESPIE**, 57, of Burlington, who receives treatment at the Harvard Center for schizoaffective disorders. Gillespie's computer-aided drawings look almost like the characters of a lost language.

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slings — two former emerging artists who have gone on to become veterans.

Lyrical soprano Sherrin Apostoliana has the kind of voice that can sustain long, beautiful lines with agility. Cameron Schutts is a spinto (or "pushed") tenor, meaning his voice can hold its own over a large orchestra. When it came to the season's operas, by contrast, Stasys chose those both to highlight the mezzo-soprano voice in lead roles, and tenors who sing Rossini as generally feggo, or "lucky".

The gala is an occasion to show off some of the successes of the emergency artists program, which Stages established seven years ago and ran until he took over as artistic director last year. Since participating in the program, Agostolou has been a regional prize winner, and Schatz a national finalist.

in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Other former GMEC participants have gone on to sing at the Met, the San Francisco Opera and L'Opera de Montreal, among other houses. As New Yorker *Apostrophe* puts it during a phone call, "Green Mountain [Opera Festival] takes care of its own."

The 18-year-old soprano performed Adina in Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* with the GMDP in 2009; a jgg she was so excited to get at the time, she recalls, that she "was shouting into the phone. I don't know what Bruce thought of me," she adds with a laugh. Aponte now has gone on to become a young artist at the Glyndebour Festival in Cooperstown, NY, one of the country's premier programs for young singers and a producer



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Warner
#6: Paper Bags

By Andy Warner

#6: Paper Bags

Paper bags in the 19th century were shaped like giant envelopes. Placed on the floor, they would tip over and spill out. A young woman named Margaret Knight took note



Knight invented a machine that folded and glued flat-bottomed bags, so they could be stood upright. She had a prototype built at a machine shop, where a fellow named Charles Annan happened to be lurking about.

When Knight arrived at the patent office, she found that Annan had already filed a patent for an almost identical machine!



Knight took Annan to court. Annan wasn't too worried – he had a foolproof case.

Look, her
tiny lady brain
couldn't have come
up with anything as
complicated as this
machine!

Oh... it
is an

Knight used her notes, diaries and a host of witnesses from the machine shop to prove she was the true inventor. In 1879, the court found in her favor, making Knight the first American woman to win a patent suit and cementing her place in history as the mother of the modern paper bag.



ANDY WARNER

ANDY WARNER His comics have been published by *Auto*, *Symba*, *WQED*, *Popcorn*, *Source*, *popcorn.com* and *American Public Media*. Andy is a graduate of the Center for Cartoon Studies and currently resides in California. Some more of Andy's work, which encompasses comic,



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STATEofTHEarts

HowardCenter

But once she describes the scenes they depict, their shapes take on new meanings. The wiggles become waves, the circles a drowning child.

Gillette declares, in an uncertain terms, that the process of making art has emotional value to her. "It's therapeutic — to have that feeling of accomplishment," she says. "It makes you feel good about yourself, like you're worth something."

What Gillette describes is not far off from Edith Kramer's take on the therapeutic value of art, which she called "a powerful aid in sorting out and mastering experience."

TOM GUNN, 58, of Colchester, has an escape artist about the way art has helped him get control of his life. A tattoo artist for nearly 30 years, Dunn wears the ribbed tattoos of his former profession on his arms. A breakdown following a "rough divorce," he says, left him with tremors, a condition that prevented him from doing the needlework on the bodies of his clients.

Dunn now makes walking sticks and canes, and has drawn and printed works

for "Much North." In those media, he says, the tremors "don't matter too much — I've got a lot more freedom. Paints are pretty forgiving." Saying he'll now work in whatever medium is at hand, Dunn notes, "Now I'm learning to break all the rules I learned doing tattoos, and I'm having quite a bit of fun."

Comments like this — and the chuckles they elicit from fellow artists — make efficient organizer Pugh light up even more. He's struggled with mental health issues himself, he says, and sees the arts collec-

tive as more than just a group therapy session that turns out artwork; it's also a way to create community. "We don't sit together and do art together," Pugh says, "but we are relying upon each other and getting advice."

The collective, he goes on, allows everyone at the HowardCenter to come together. "What I love about it is that, in the collective, you're not an employee or a client," Pugh says. "You're an artist."

INFO

Much North: Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday to Sun. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 21; Wednesday: Friday March 16, 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday: Sat.

Aria Code

presenting established Broadway musicals along with operas. Last year, she performed in *Glenn Gould*; Carolee and she'll sing a lead part in its production of *Carousel* this year.

After Apostolos's appearance with GWOF, Stasopoulos became her coach, helping her to prepare for competitions, a European tour and a gig in China, among other career highlights. The soprano reprised the part of Ariadne twice last year, at the Baltimore Concert Opera and Opera Bellevue.

Her training at GWOF played a key part in landing those *Ariadne* roles. "I wouldn't even have been considered if I hadn't done it already," Apostolos notes. "Steve helped me understand the comedy of it, and the musical language of the composer and the period." She adds, "It was so much fun to open my score [from Vermont] and see all the notes I made back then."

In addition to coaching, Stasopoulos is chorus master and assistant conductor of the Washington Concert Opera and

concert pianist for the New York City-based Metacore/Gordine Foundation, a nonprofit that helps young singers gain a career foothold. (Its artists' board made like an opera who's who list: Peter Galka, David Fleming, Susan Graham, James Levine.) Stasopoulos also debuted as chorus master with New York City Opera for Anna Nicole, the 70-year-old company's third production before it folded last September.

Directing the GWOF, meanwhile, is "a part-time position that requires full-time work," Stasopoulos says wryly. "There really is no day that goes by where I'm not doing something to do with Green Mountain Opera Festival," he adds.

The gala will mark the start of yet more work with an evening of celebrations.

INFO

La Follie de Montpelier with Green Mountain Opera Festival: Saturday March 22, 6 p.m., at the Inn at Round Barn Farm in Wells near \$100 tickets. www.gwof.org; www.gwof.org; www.gwof.org



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Dear Cecil,

I'll get straight to the point: What's up with penis-stealing sorcerers in Africa? I've heard large mobs adamantly believe their penises have been stolen using black magic. How is it so many people can have the same hallucination? How often do these penis-theft hysterics break out?

Jim Baltimore



truth is that penis theft is a local manifestation of a broader phenomenon.

Consider Southern Asia, home of a disorder known as *hara*, where your penis isn't stolen but rather starts to withdraw into your body. If you don't halt the process by grabbing your member or tying it down with string or wire, supposedly it will retract completely inside you, with fatal re-

Kore suit blamed on security In 1967 an outbreak in Singapore was triggered by a racist, repeated in news reports, that killing most from pigs inoculated against swine fever would lead to have White pork rotted on the shelves, frightened man crowded the hospitals, with 466 "victims" by the time the panic ran its course.

In 2004 a horn outbreak in the Guangxi region of China started when a third grader became convinced his penis was shrinking. While his mother held the kids member

Hysteria! Come now. In the age of identity theft and other first-world problems, it's almost refreshing to have an issue that speaks to the brotherhood of man.

I acknowledge you don't get many sophisticated cases of poisons there in my, Peru. While rumors of general literacy appear specifically throughout the world, most commonly they're found in developing nations with poorly educated tribal cultures where belief in witchcraft is still strong. In Senegal, for example, it's believed poisons can be stolen by careful witches, or via important spells cast by sorcerers or simply by ordinary, everyday and aunts.

A point-theft episode typically involves four stages. First the "victim" has an odd encounter, such as a stranger unexpectedly shaking his hand. Next is the sensation of an electric shock or chill traveling to his genitals. Third, he checks his crotch and becomes

convicted his penis, testicles or both have been stolen or shrunk. The final step is crying "Tina!F" and exhorting others to confront the suspect, sometimes with the "victims" stopping on the spot to prove his genitals are gone. When an epidemic swept Nigeria in 1990, men walked around grasping their penises to prevent theft.

The result of this delusional dream can be pretty ugly. About 20 witches accused of poisoning their livestock in Nigeria in 2001, and 12 in Ghana in 2003. One survey counted 56 separate cases between 1997 and 2003, with at least 56 suspected thieves scarified. In a 2008 outbreak in Congo, urgent messages went out by radio to civil strangers wearing gold rings in towns, leading police to put 13 suspected sorcerers into protective custody to prevent breaches.

Stuffed Westerners may wonder what kind of idiot could seriously believe his penis had been stolen. From a glance at the results it's evident

that in many if not most cases the claim isn't that your genitalia have disappeared without a trace; rather, you think they're shrinking. There's a perfectly ordinary explanation for this — namely, the operation of the cremaster muscles, which pull the testes toward the body, typically in response to cold or fear. This is totally accompanied by a tingling sensation that could easily be interpreted as electric shock.

The mystery is why this commonplace experience should be taken as a sign of the dark arts. The default explanation is mass hysteria, which tells you nothing. A slightly slower take on things is that panic itself and other bizarre outbreaks in the developing world are "culture-bound syndromes," which suggests they're pathologies confined to mobs of superstitious villagers. But the term is

INFO

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Seriously

The dashboard clock had just clicked to 3 a.m., and downtown Burlington was quickly becoming a ghost town. A secret hour earlier, the streets had thrummed with people. But now one by one after last call at the bars, most everyone had completed the weekend routine: They had bought and loaded their pizzas, lobsters and strange sandwiches, looked up or given up trying and driven, cabbied or bailed it back to their homes or apartments.

I spotted a stranger—a glimmer of a stranger I recognized from the back of my head. I jumped in the back, and I swung a right onto lower Church Street, then on either onto King. My customer was telling quietly on his cell to a woman, perhaps he was on route in her place, or maybe they lived together at City Bluffs. In any event, it seemed like an immense conversation, so things went going well for the guy.

I settled in for the ride. Every night that I'm out cabbied, I have to make time and measure the number of calls I can complete. But on this call, I took back and ease up on the accelerator. I exhale and let my mind drift—another night in the books.

I had just begun this mental view-down when a young man pulled me from the

corner of South Champlain. I pulled over, lowered the passenger window and asked him where he was going, explaining that the guy in the back was bound for North Avenue.

"I'm heading to Spear Street," he replied, "across from the Gas, but I don't want to drop this other guy first. I just want to get out of the cab."

The kid appeared college age and had a wild look in his eyes as he let the shotgun air filling.

"There's in lock, man. I always have a great ride when I take cabs. I love riding to cabbies. All right, then, do what your cabbie? Tell me what you know about life. I want to hear it."

What do I know about life? I know that I do not eat pork. I have never, in my life, I'm not implying that I am in possession of pearls, or that that happened-upon-a-guy was a waste. This is my one and only life. I'm willing to share my experience with people, even strangers, but only when the person on the receiving end is actually willing and able to receive. I thought he seemed to be, so I gave him a narrative of my life, this kid seemed high on some substance and mentally disturbed, so if a pullout was happening around his brain.

"Well, I said quietly, 'that's a big question. I don't know much, I'll tell you that. What about you? Is this going to UVM?'"

"Yeah, but I don't know what you doing. I'm a junior and majoring in engineering."

"That's a great career if you can stick with it. How you doing?"

"I have, like, a three-seven-five GPA."

"Shit, man—that's great. So you must be budding doctor, at least during the week."

"I don't know. I'm having trouble with the ladies. What the fuck is it with women? Are they like, all bitchy? Tell me, man. You're being a serious waste."

I took a breath to slow things down a bit. The conversation was confusing. That isn't necessarily the worst thing, but I didn't want to get swept up in the current. I thought upon about the pearls and some aphorisms. There's from the Bible, isn't it? I couldn't recall.

The thing is, there is another aphorism I live by: There are no accidents in people's lives when it comes to the flow of people in and out of our lives. This young man, I think, though he might have been, was wrestling with life—no longer a kid and desperately trying to figure out how to be a man. I was his man.

"So here's the thing about women," I replied. "They're just people. They want to be listened to, respected, taken seriously. Just like you, man. So once you start talking about bitches, you've stopped seeing them as people. And then there's some hope of having a real relationship."

I pulled up to my initial customer's drop-off point. "Man, that's a heavy conversation you been having," he said, chuckling, as he paid his fare.

My customer laughed and, "Right on," and exchanged some elaborate handshakes with the guy in the back before the latter got out. I've made attempts to learn those handshakes, but I apparently missed the guy's cue.

The ride over to UVM was filled with rapid-fire questions and abrupt subject changes. I tried to meet this person where

he was in his life. 20 and kind of clueless. He actually had a good heart; he was just having a hard time getting in touch with and following it.

As we approached Spear Street, he said, "Do you smoke weed, man? You got time? You can come in and we could like, smoke a bowl."

"Get, thanks for the offer, but I haven't smoked pot in over 10 years."

"Why not? It's great."

"Well, it can be fun to get high, particularly with good friends. But at a certain point, I realized that life is tough. It can be beautiful, but it's a daily challenge, and personally speaking, I need to be as much as I can be in experience it. When I need to do drugs, I would lose track, and I decided I didn't want to risk that anymore. I couldn't afford it."

I could tell this person was really listening to me. He was a searcher and looking for the path forward. I had no idea if any thoughts about women, drugs or anything he had (seemingly) around were worthwhile, let alone accurate or valid. But I had taken our exchange seriously—I had taken him seriously—and I honestly shared my experience. So, in that sense, it felt like I had met him to the occasion.

Before getting out, the guy asked for a business card, so he could call and "talk me more stuff." I chuckled and said I didn't know about that, but I'd be happy to drive him again. He took the card, nodded and left.

I took a deep, in-and-out breath and released—back to wind-down mode, heading home. ☺

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REAL
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The school, eerily empty



Stranded computers

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MOVIE.



A row of vacant lockers

Campus Lifeless

Five years after Pine Ridge School closed, the Williston property remains eerily quiet

BY KEN PICARD | PHOTOS BY OLIVER FRANK

Commercial real estate broker Jed Donawick unlocks the front door of the unoccupied Delano Administration Building and lets a small group of prospective buyers inside, along with a journalist and a photographer. At first glance, the building doesn't look vacant, even like the owners are running errands and due back shortly.

But the longer we explore this structure — and 13 others on the sprawling, 128-acre Pine Ridge School campus for sale in rural Williston — the more it feels like the previous tenants actually bailed on short notice, as though fleeing deadly contagions.

Indeed, the administration building, like most of Pine Ridge, looks tailor-made for shooting a zombie apocalypse movie. Framed pictures still hang on the walls. Desks and filing cabinets are littered with yellowed notebooks and blueprints. Bicycles and jackets still hang in a closet. An American flag stands in a corner behind the reception desk, where a telephone and message pad seem to await incoming calls.

"It's kind of spooky," observes Amy Donawick, director of real estate

development for Christopher Housing Trust. She's on the tour, along with CHT chief operating and financial officer Michael Malone, to rebid the property for potential development ideas.

Donawick agrees. His firm, V/T Commercial, has been trying for years to sell this property on behalf of its client, People's United Bank. "It's like they shut the lights off, walked out and never came back again," he says.

Until five years ago, this wooded and hilly campus, with its stunning views of Mt. Mansfield, was home to a private boarding school founded in 1945 to educate teens with learning disabilities, primarily dyslexia. At its peak, Pine Ridge employed more than 300 faculty and staff and had an enrollment of 115 students. As long as 90 students lived on campus year-round in three opulent, modern dorms.

But by the early 2000s, many students with learning disabilities had been mainstreamed into public schools, and Pine Ridge fell on hard times. As public funding for private schools dried up and a dwindling number of families checked out

the \$56,000 annual tuition — day students paid \$12,000 — the school began opening its doors to kids with emotional and behavioral difficulties. In the words of its last board of trustees, Pine Ridge "drifted far from its original mission."

In 2006, trustees hoping to save their beleaguered institution hired headmaster Don Blackhurst, a wealthy, well-connected and controversial special educator. When Blackhurst arrived in April 2007, he inherited a financially distressed enrollment and \$1.4 million in debt. He tried saving the school back to fiscal solvency in part by cutting staff and closing tuition to attract new students.

But the school's downward spiral was irreversible. In March 2008, Blackhurst announced that Pine Ridge would close permanently that June following its graduation ceremony. The campus has remained vacant and unused ever since.

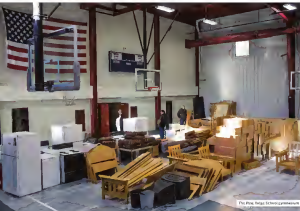
During an tour, the second conducted that day by V/T Commercial, Donawick explains some of the challenges of selling this attractive but complicated real estate. People's United Bank foreclosed on the

property at a time when the national real estate market was deep in the toilet and few buyers were interested in a \$15 million price tag.

Moreover, because the entire campus sits on Williston's agricultural/rural/recreational zoning district — an area designated for minimum development — its uses are limited. Current zoning laws would allow a developer to, say, scrape the land bare of all existing structures, then build luxury homes on 2-plus-acre lots — an expensive and impractical option.

Much of the land is mapped as deer wintering area, further hindering new construction, other areas are steeply wooded hillside. In short, Donawick says, virtually the only practical way to use the property is as the site of another school, hospital or house of worship. Considering the facilities available — and the discounted price of \$2.8 million — a school or hospital seems the likeliest candidate.

Donawick leads us down stairs to the Best Dining Hall, where plates, bowls, trays and silverware are stacked on shelves and rolling carts, seemingly awaiting an



The Pine Ridge Learning community

morning lunch crowd. The dining room features a beautiful stone fireplace that looks like it hasn't been used in years. In one corner sits a vintage Mo Pac Mac arcade game.

In another stands a pool table with a restorator's oil-filled balls, as though a game were still under way.

We exit the building and walk down a long, paved road, past a series of mostly one-story clipboard structures and gray, oddly shaped "pods" that lend this part of campus a minor-camp aesthetic. Later I learn that, in addition to the soccer fields located along the Wisconsin River, Pine Ridge's ropes course remains untouched.

As we climb a staircase inside the Hopwood Academic Building that ends-of-days who grows early strong. On the second floor, each member of the tour first out in a different direction. I explore a row of offices and classrooms, marveling at the abundance of books and other educational material left behind.

In one room sits a pile of 20 to 30 laptops and their carrying cases, all in mint condition, at least for their day, according to Doucette, all their hard drives were

crashed years ago. In another room, numerous world maps hung on the walls beside a brand-new smartboard. In another, a small library houses hundreds of books.

As our group reconvenes outside, Monte remarks on the simple resources seemingly going to waste inside.

"It's hard to tell how much of it has value," he says, "but it must have some value to someone."

Doucette leads us to one of the newer and most impressive buildings the Duane Activity Center, a 9,562-square-foot, multi-use, climate-controlled shelter facility. Just inside, we pass several glass cases with trophies still on display. Beyond them is the gymnasium itself, huge and in pristine condition.

The basketball court would look even larger were it not covered with furniture neatly stacked in rows: pool-hockey tables, workout equipment, mattresses, refrigerators, microwave ovens and chests of drawers — more than 25 bedrooms now in all. In its current state, the court could easily be pressed into service as an emergency Red Cross shelter. Doucette explains that

nearly all the furniture was evacuated from a nearby dorm, which flooded during one of the recent "monsoon storms."

Outside, we continue down the hill, passing a small school bus, two newer-model pickup trucks and an enclosed trailer. All were once owned by Pine Ridge but never auctioned off by the bank. Doucette confirms that they too, would be available to a purchaser.

We visit two last buildings on our tour: the Mansfield and Sterling dormitories. Constructed in 2004, these two-story dorms feature single and double rooms as well as several two-bedroom apartments. Together, they're large enough to house more than 60 students and residential advisors, though Doucette doesn't have a exact figure.

Stirling looks much as it did when the students departed, which makes it all the creepier inside. Some of the beds still have blankets and sheets. Several kitchens have dishes in the sink, the bathrooms, soap in the shower stalls.

In one room, someone left behind a Schenck mountain bike. In fairly good condition. Another office held copies of

the New Yorker, and art projects bearing students' names on the wall. In a central lounge, I spot an obscure TV remote with extra-large buttons, presumably for kids with dyslexia. On a shelf was an astonishingly correct clasp for teaching CPR.

As we make our way outside and back to our cars, Doucette explains how the search for buyers is going.

"Our marketing right now is national," he says. "I wouldn't say there's one typical user, but we've had a lot of inquiries."

As members of our group brainstorm potential uses of the property — senior housing, a psychiatric facility, a drug-treatment center — Doucette notes that one such idea was already considered, and withdrawn, two years into the process.

In November 2003, Maple Leaf Farm Associates, the Underhill-based drug-treatment center, signed a purchase agreement to buy the property for an undisclosed sum. An executive director Bill Young explains, the nonprofit sunk nearly two years and more than \$200,000 into exploring the feasibility of opening a 50-bed inpatient drug-treatment center at the former Pine Ridge.

What killed the draft? Nothing about the property itself, Young says. However, the cost of renovations quickly crept above \$300,000 — more than Maple Leaf was ready to spend. Then there was the costly and time-consuming process of getting approval from Wisconsin's zoning board, a neighborhood and planning review board, all of which, Young says, added months to an already cumbersome review process, if not years. As he puts it, "I don't think we would have been able to do it."

Matt Boudinger, a senior planner in Wisconsin's Planning & Zoning Office, admits that Maple Leaf faced challenges, among them a small but vocal group of residents who opposed a drug-treatment center in their vicinity.

But, Boudinger notes, any potential buyer will have hurdles to overcome — with or without offering outpatient services to drug addicts.

"It's a big, complicated property," he says, "and that's going to slow things down for anyone."

W/T Commercial's leadership certainly hopes not. As of last week, the firm had seven offers in hand, according to agent David Worther. While Worther won't disclose the potential buyers' names, he says at least one prospect is based on the site.

"Huge kudos, it will be a win to some value to that team," he says of the desistee former Pine Ridge. "It's an absolutely gorgeous piece of property, and it's a shame to have it go to waste." ☐



Residential Reality

House hunting in Vermont? Here's what \$250K can get you around the state

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

How much house does approximately \$250,000 buy you in the Green Mountain State in 2012? We combed through the current listings and came up with examples that, by and large, prove a few general principles of Vermont real estate — starting with the all-too-obvious “location, location, location.”

Finding a great home for a moderate price is, of course, nearly impossible in Burlington, where single-family house sales average about \$150,000. Better deals beckon across the river in “Burlington’s Brooklyn.”

But, as in the actual Brooklyn, prices for desirable homes in over-bigger Winooski are trending up. Those who view life in the burbs as a palatable option can find more house for the dollar in Essex. But there, too, new or well-maintained older homes priced below \$300,000 don’t linger long on the market, according to local real estate agents.

There’s a general rule in north-central Vermont. The further one ventures from Burlington, the lower the cost and the more spacious the crib. Genuine bargains are available in Rutland, White River Junction and even a Montpelier. While only the most hard-core road warriors may be willing to commute to Chittenden County from Newport, those who do can decompress at the end of the day with close-up views of Jay Peak or Lake Memphremong from big, lightly taxed homes sitting on at least a few acres. Close to the border, sticker prices are more likely to soothe than shock.

There’s another general rule for house hunters to keep in mind: Procrastination in today’s market will prove costly. Mortgage rates, like home prices, look likely to rise throughout 2012. ☐



1 Burlington, 3 Haswell Street



This Burlington College-owned property put off preservation-minded Lakeview Terrace was the best-looking home listed last week in the Queen City for anything close to \$350,000. And it isn’t going to last long, predicts Lake Clarendon of Coldwell Banker Hobbs & Ruderman Realty. The house doesn’t come with a garage, but it’s 15 minutes by foot from Church Street and even less from the downtown water front.

The Burlington market, Clarendon notes, has gotten “very active” in recent months. Prices are rising, he says, while length of time on the market is falling. Corps down.



FOR SALE

\$298,000

Taxes: \$3,170

2008 square feet

Four bedrooms

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Great source: national gas

2 Winooski, 41 Orchard Terrace



All geared up for its next owner, this ranch house only paid and deck has a new roof, a rebuilt chimney, a newly installed picture window, finished hardwood floors and a remodeled kitchen. The large downstairs family room lacks the worn-out carpeting often found in these spaces; instead, it sports a new tiled floor. The seller even painted the inside of the garage.

Home prices in Winooski are rising at a slow rate despite the influx of prospective buyers who were priced out of the Burlington market, reports listing agent Jason Lefebvre of Signature Properties of Vermont. "We get mostly first-time homebuyers," he says. "The market is active but stable."

FOR SALE

\$254,900

Taxes: \$4,900

3748 square feet

Three bedrooms

1.5 bathrooms

Year built: 1985

Heat source: natural gas



3 Essex Junction, 12 Mohawk Ave.



This Cape-style home features hardwood floors throughout and a custom-built fireplace mantel. In spite of its suburban location, it's also got a spacious yard and one-car garage. "That gives it all the amenities agent Kathleen Holmes of RE/MAX North Professionals says buyers seek in this price range: starter condition in Essex are 'invasive,'" she adds. "I've been selling houses for 12 years, and I haven't been this busy since the '90s. Houses, especially for under \$150,000, are just flying off the shelf."

FOR SALE

\$245,000

Taxes: \$4,444

Three bedrooms

One and a half baths

Year built: 1952

Heat source: natural gas

4 Newport Center, 154 Kimberly Lane

It's a 20-minute drive to Jay Peak from this chalet-style home that sits on 6.2 mostly wooded acres at the end of a quiet road. Views of Lake Memphremong can be enjoyed from the deck, suitable in either a vacation getaway or year-round home, the house was completely remodeled two years ago and comes fully furnished.

The Newport area home-sales scene is "picking up," says listing agent Ryan Proctor of Jim Campbell Real Estate. "But we still have lots of inventory to work through before prices start rising." The build-out at Jay Peak Resort has attracted an increasing number of second-home buyers, Proctor adds. He notes, however, that no-town properties must compete with the condos recently built on the mountain.

FOR SALE

\$229,000

Taxes: \$3,982

2482 square feet

Four bedrooms

1.5 bathrooms

Year built: 1977

Heat sources: oil, wood

5 Montpelier, 92 Northfield Street



In Montpelier, it's possible to live within walking distance of the Statehouse yet feel far from the hectic and hectic. Such is the case of this gambrel-style home nestled in a parklike setting. It's got a covered front porch, wood floors throughout, lots of attic storage space and a gas fireplace.

Home sales prices in Montpelier have fallen 804 percent since November, according to Trulia.com, a real estate tracking website. This home is priced well below what Trulia says is the current average listing price of \$129,000 in the capital city.

FOR SALE

\$225,800

Taxes: \$4,640

1801 square feet

Three bedrooms

1.5 bathrooms

Year built: 1989

Hot source: propano

6 White River Junction, 809 Bliss Road



Seriously, who wouldn't want to live on Bliss Road? Typically, perhaps, in a post-and-beam Cape-style home on 24 acres with easy access to numerous trails, as well as to mountains 90 and 91. It's a short drive to the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

The home market in the Upper Valley is "getting more active," says Alan Brinson of Coldwell Banker Redpath & Co., the agent for this home. "Something will priced and will move in going to go pretty quickly." At the same time, potential buyers won't find as much competition in rural sections of the Upper Valley as they will in nearby Hanover, N.H., especially downtown, Brinson adds.

FOR SALE

\$265,000

Taxes: \$4,000

1948 square feet

Four bedrooms

1.5 bathrooms

Year built: 1982

Hot source: propano

wood, pellets

7 Rutland Town, 642 Colonial Drive



A large deck offers views of the mountains and woods that give this gambrel-style home a rustic feel. But it's only 10 minutes to downtown Rutland from the remote and subdivision in which the house is situated. A stream running through the 24-acre property is accessible by trail. There's a fireplace in the family room.

Home sales in the Rutland area "could be moving faster," says listing agent Denise Rivers of RE/MAX Prime Properties. They are beginning to pick up, she adds, but prices remain stable.

FOR SALE

\$285,000

Taxes: approximately

\$4,000

2821 square feet

Three bedrooms, one full

and one half bathroom

Year built: 1981

Hot source: forced hot air

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Virtual Space

Two Middlebury grads offer software that helps architects and clients "see" in 3-D

BY KATHRIN FLAHERTY

Some Scranton and Nate Beatty are the first to admit that when they show up at an architecture firm, they black briefcase in hand, they're likely to face skepticism from the seasoned designers in the room. Inside that briefcase is a headset that looks a little like a shofur version of Google, black ski goggles.

They've got a lot of explaining to do to their hosts about virtual reality, 3-D modeling, and what those goggles might mean for architecture and design. Scranton's approach?

"We just show up with the Oculus Rift, pop it on someone's head, and it does the talking," he says.

If you're an avid gamer or techie, you're probably already heard about the Oculus Rift. In case you haven't, the SpecVR version would give something like this: Created by company Oculus VR, the Rift is a headset that essentially transports the wearer into virtual reality. Instead of looking at a computer screen, you feel as though you're inside the screen; you can shift your perspective by simply moving your head.

Scranton and Beatty, two recent Middlebury College graduates, are developing software for the device that would allow architects and builders—and, perhaps most importantly, their clients—to explore architectural models in virtual reality. They're calling their venture Iria.

"You put it on and feel present in the space," says Scranton of the Oculus Rift. "And, boy, that's a good way to get clients to spend money on an architect."

The Oculus Rift isn't commercially available yet, but the company has already sold an estimated 50,000 headsets to developers. Oculus VR recently unveiled its latest prototype, called the Crystal Cove, which suggests the Best of CES award at this year's International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

The device has developers, and particularly hardcore gamers, fawning like giddy schoolchildren. "It Was the New Oculus Rift and I Never Want to Look at Real Life Again," reads the headline on a recent Gizmodo article. "There's no doubt in my mind that when the final version of this device comes out it is going to change the world," the writer, Eric Lipton, enthused.



Nate Beatty and Justin Scranton

Of course, the trouble facing parents and early reviewers of the Oculus Rift is that it's difficult to convey on print just how immersive the experience of wearing the headset is. This reporter tried it and couldn't help agreeing with the breathlessly enthusiastic *Saturday Night Live* skit.

Scranton ordered his development kit last summer. He'd graduated from Middlebury College the previous spring with a degree in architecture and

environmental studies. And, though he had extensive experience in the field for a recent graduate—including a stint at South African Sustainability Architects in Burlington—he wasn't getting any job offers. "I applied to 50, 60 architecture firms," Scranton says. "I heard back from one—saying no."

So he went freelance instead, putting to use the 3-D modeling skills he'd learned working on Middlebury's award-winning Solar Decathlon house.

"I knew what architects needed," says Scranton. He founded *Lightwell*, a visualization, web design and branding studio and found his niche producing photorealistic renderings for architecture and design firms.

"Architects are really good at looking at two-dimensional models and seeing that in three dimensions. That's what they do," says Beatty, who graduated from Middlebury College last month and joined Scranton to help with *Lightwell*'s website design.

But laypeople, Beatty continues, may struggle to translate blueprints into a space in which they can imagine themselves living or working. That's where photorealistic renderings come in. The images are all about marketing—helping clients envision a finished space in a way that floor plans just can't. But each order typically takes more time to produce than most architects have to spare, Scranton points out, that's where he found his niche.

Steeped in the world of 3-D modeling, Scranton started hearing about the latest advances in virtual reality—including the Oculus Rift. He remembers thinking, "That sounds like something I might be able to do with architecture."

The bit he had ordered arrived in October. Scranton fired up a 3-D model up of a building, popped on the Rift—and, he remembers, shouted, "Oh, my God!" Physics major Beatty recalls having a similar reaction when Scranton showed him the Rift—he thought OK, this is what I want to do.

The two are now developing architectural software that would be "plug and play." In other words, architects could take computer models of buildings designed in SketchUp or similar programs and translate them as effortlessly into an Oculus Rift experience. In the meantime, Scranton and Beatty have hooked together demonstrations that allow architects to see what's coming down the line. They're hiring additional developers to join their fast team.

They're not alone, developers across the country are creating development software for the Rift. The most obvious applications are in the gaming world, but virtual reality could also be used to treat post-traumatic stress disorder, educate children with autism or rethink the film industry. Scranton and Beatty aren't the only ones

working on architectural applications for the technology, but they say they hope to bring it in at a price point that will make their software more accessible than products from bigger companies.

On a recent afternoon, Scranton and Beatty fire up one of their Iris demonstrations for a *Shilling* reporter.

They work in a light-filled corner office on the Middlebury campus of the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies. But when I slide on the Oculus Rift, that office — not to mention Scranton and Beatty — disappears. Immediately a place that was previously visible only on a computer model fills my peripheral vision.

It's Scranton's childhood home, which is modeled up using SketchUp. The virtual space isn't photo-realistic in the way that Scranton's renderings for Lightbulb clients are — but, it turns out, that doesn't matter. A handheld videogame controller allows the user to move through the space, but where remark-able is the ability to turn my head and peek around a corner, or glance up at the ceiling. After I take a moment or two to adjust to the new surroundings, they do, in a sense, real.

Developers have been trying to crack the code behind virtual-reality headsets for decades, and Oculus Rift seems poised to be the first to succeed. The list of obstacles — tracking, resolution, motion blur — is long, but by far the biggest has been "latency" or lag time. When you're

keep the eyes from picking up on noticeable lag, but still causing queasiness when the user wears the headset for a long time.

So far, signs point to the Rift becoming commercially available in late 2016 or early next year. Initially, Iris will offer clients a package including both the Rift and the software to run its virtual walk-throughs. But in just a few years' time, Scranton predicts, his company won't need to act as middle man for the technology. Give it five years, he says, and "the Oculus has the potential to be as ubiquitous as the television."

It certainly has a wow factor, as Scranton's demonstrations at architecture firms around the region have shown. In one instance, Scranton recalls, an architect sat down, put on the headset and then interrupted. Scranton's presentation. "That's a really, he told me," building entrepreneur. He left the room — and returned with his entire firm in tow.

"We all loved it," says Steve Smith, a principal of SAS Architects. "We all saw the potential... You've got to look beyond the big clarity thing you put on your head, and see what's coming."



What's coming, he predicts, is that technology like Oculus will be the default within a few years. Smith calls the ability to visualize space in three dimensions a specialized skill, one that not every client — or every architect, for that matter — displays. He believes virtual-reality technology will not only help clients envision spaces, but help architects build them.

"It would be a great design tool," Smith says. "When you go into a building and see it framed up, it's never exactly the way it was when you saw it in your head."

Scranton and Beatty concede that some architects may be slow to adopt the technology; some firms in Vermont may head-drift everything. Scranton says that they hope to make their Iris software as accessible to 10-year-old kid building around with SketchUp as these homeowners as it is to trained designers. And they foresee that, before long, those parties and everyone in between will have their hands on virtual-reality equipment.

"This is not a step forward in technology," Beatty says. "But a revolution in how we experience space." □

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SHANE SCRANTON

wearing a VR headset and turn your head to look to the left or right, it takes a beat for the virtual world to catch up.

When that delay is too long, the result is a feeling of seasickness or motion sickness. Oculus VR is trying to reduce the lag to a mere 20 milliseconds. In the prototype, Scranton and Beatty use, it's at about 90 milliseconds, fast enough to

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LET US DARE

Always Be Closing

Burlington realtor Steve Lipkin is an ace at selling apartment buildings

BY ALICIA FRIESE

Biting averages, families, inclusions and other stats are generally considered the stuff of sports leagues, but real estate agents abide by their own set of numbers — sales totals, units sold, listing-price-to-sale-price ratios. If you peruse these figures for Vermont, it's clear that Steve Lipkin has attained the equivalent of all-star status in the buying and selling of apartment buildings.

The Burlington agent has overseen \$100 million worth of sales during the 16 years he's been in business. And he's pulled up the pace in recent years: Since 2010, Lipkin has closed on 168 deals, to the tune of nearly \$67 million.

To newcomers, those numbers might seem a bit arcane, but the Northern New England Real Estate Network generates rankings that put them in context. For the last four years, Lipkin, 48, has been the No. 1 agent in Vermont for multifamily sales, a distinction that means he sold the most of that type of property in terms of total value. He was involved with nearly a 10th of the multifamily transactions statewide during the period.

The secrets of his success? "Gearing out a niche, nurturing the cry's 'rain and sun,' making connections, and never shirking 'dirty work,'" Lipkin says.

Lipkin started out as an agent in 1998 at the same firm where he works today: Coldwell Banker Heckel & Boardman Realty, a local affiliate of a megafirm chain with 3,000 offices in 51 countries.

The road to the top wasn't glass-crisp. Related in Keeneborough, Maine, Lipkin got his first taste of the sales business after graduating from Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y. He drove his Volkswagen van to San Diego and got a job peddling copy machines to businesses, getting paid only when someone agreed to buy one. He'd call them out or show up at their door, and the gig proved less than lucrative. Lipkin, not one for



Lipkin, Steve and Karen Lipkin

retrospective wishing, says only, "It was tough."

He landed his next job at Perry Motors Corporation, a southern California company that leased computer chip generators and other high-end equipment to businesses. But then the dot-com bubble burst, and Perry Motors went belly up.

In 1993, Lipkin moved to Burlington, bedeviled by his twosider brothers. At the time, they owned and operated Copious Toy Men's Cakes in Church Street, as well as the Old Dock House Restaurant across the lake in Rouse, N.Y. Lipkin helped manage the restaurants, but "housework" was a liberally interpreted term; he cooked, washed tables, tended bar and washed dishes, too. After five years of that, Lipkin decided to return to a commission-based line of work: real estate.

The first six months at Coldwell Banker were slow. He didn't get a single sale.

That's not unusual for a newcomer, but Lipkin chose a particularly

**WHEN IT COMES TO
MULTIFAMILY APARTMENTS
IN THIS COMMUNITY,
THERE'S AN UNDERSTANDING
THAT STEVE LIPKIN IS THE
GO-TO PERSON.**

JEFF SCHULMAN

unsavory time to enter the business. It was the turn of the 21st century, and the World Wide Web was beginning to spread how things were done. In the real estate industry, an agent's power had been vested in the pages of a single document: the Multiple Listing Service, or MLS, book. The black-and-white paperback carried out monthly and listed all the properties on the market

in a given location. It was difficult for buyers and sellers of those properties to circumvent real estate agents, who held the keys to this repository of fresh inventory. Those listings started making their way online right around the time Lipkin got his license, and he remembers hearing speculators that agents might go extinct.

Early on, Lipkin decided to stake a claim in a sector of the market that other agents seemed to avoid: the duplexes, triplexes or larger apartment complexes referred to as multifamily properties. "It was a niche nobody else seemed to be focusing on or specializing in," he explains, "and I saw an opportunity there to become an expert."

Besides many deem these types of transactions undesirable with good reason: Rental buildings are subject to stricter safety requirements than single-family homes, and they are more likely to have unneeded zoning permit issues

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Always Be Closing

BY JEFF

that need to be addressed before a deal closes.

Burlington has plenty of aging properties, upwards of 100 years old, that don't change hands frequently and code violations tend to accumulate over the years, according to Lapina.

By now, having been on hundreds of fire-safety and building code inspections, Lapina knows how to navigate the byzantine regulatory system. Some city officials say he can spot problems before they're arrived at a property to point them out.

how have had it to do business in the city of Burlington, but I think if you knew the rules and you play by them, and you try to deal with issues up front, it's not a mystery."

Brian Boardman, a realtor and owner of Coldwell Banker Thelakis & Boardman, has worked alongside Lapina since he started. "One of Brian's biggest talents as just his person," Boardman says. "It's very time consuming, doing the back and crossing the T's."

In 2010, Lapina brought a new real estate agent under his wing, albeit reluctantly. Coldwell Banker runs a mentoring program, pairing seasoned realtors with neophytes and asking

A 19th-century gem, Lakeville Terrace



"Getting the property under contract, where you get the buyer and seller to agree on the purchase and sale, is a big part of the job, but that's really where the job begins," Lapina says. "Where we often are getting the property from there to closing, and helping our clients through the zoning, and through the public works, and the financing and the title search."

"Steve has spent more time in my office than any other real estate agent I know of," says Bill Ward, Burlington's director of code enforcement.

The relationship of realtor and code enforcer can be conflict prone, because the former is trying to close deals while an inspector might raise issues that delay or derail them. But Ward says he likes working with Lapina. "I've actually enjoyed it, and I think it's sort of a model relationship," he says.

In his past, Lapina is surprisingly forgiving of the regulatory system. "The city gets a bad rap," he says. "We always

then to play an informal advisory role. Lapina was matched with Lake Claville, now 24, son of former Burlington mayor Peter Claville.

Lapina resisted at first, he says. He was busy with sales, and taking on a mentee was another time commitment. But he warmed quickly to Claville, and within six months ended him to become his partner.

The politician's son lets Lapina do most of the talking, but the older agent trusts Claville's praise. "Take a photo manual with a lot of the behind-the-scenes things," he says. Lapina credits Claville and the new other members of his team - buyers' agent Jacob Smith and his assistant, E. Stacey Lutz - with contributing to his success.

Both Lapina and Claville are clean cut and wear button-down shirts, but they look less slick than you might expect. Claville's early-generation Vermont roots are evident in his accent, and he wears loosely fitted boots that

appear more appropriate for bikini than deskwork. Lipkin is engaging, with the fit look of someone who plays sports (He does coach his son's hockey team, but says some of the 10-year-olds are already better than he is.)

Chester and colleagues say Lipkin and Cleveland's down-to-earth approach is part of their appeal.

Marsh Gooding, a Burlington investor who has bought several properties with the pail, says he sought them out because he wanted to be "in the know" about properties that are snatched up before they can even hit the market. And, he adds, "None's got the reputation for being the *multimillionaire* yet."

YOU ALWAYS HEAR HOW BAD IT IS TO DO BUSINESS IN THE CITY OF BURLINGTON, BUT I THINK IF YOU KNOW THE RULES AND YOU PLAY BY THEM, IT'S NOT A MYSTERY

STEVE LORION

Gooding notes that he later came to appreciate qualities other than Lupton and Clarette's ability to uncover "hidden inventory": "They are very good at doing the dirty work that a lot of other realtors aren't necessarily willing to do," he says.

Gooding is referring to one purchase in particular, in which he was the buyer and Lapkin and Claville represented the seller. As part of the agreement, Gooding had stipulated that the seller clean out the debris-filled basement, but on the day of the sale, 20 tires and an assortment of other junk remained. Rather than postpone the deal, Lapkin and Claville lugged out the tires themselves. Gooding recalls seeing them emerge from the basement, their "dress up clothes for the evening" draped in cabochons.

Lipton's willingness to do grunt work also came in handy during the six worst months of the recent recession, when business ground to a halt. He started off a shift that had helped put him through college and started painting houses instead of selling them.

Eighteen years in, Lipkin is well known in the greater Burlington area, and that's another boon. Some people find him odd, but word of mouth brings in most clients, and Lipkin says these relationships are the heart of

his real estate business. He represents both buyers and sellers, ranging from first-time investors looking for a modest duplex to magnates with 100-plus units to their names. Clients become friends, and friends become clients.

Jeff Schuchman, whose kids go to school with Lipkin's, owned a duplex on South Wisconsin Avenue for two decades. He had vague plans to sell it and periodically asked Lipkin about the state of the market. About a year ago, Lipkin asked his permission to show the place to potential buyers.

Schulman, the senior associate athletic director at the University of Vermont, says he felt "a little leery" about carrying out such a significant financial transaction with a close friend, but now he has no regrets. The process was complex. "We had worried really hard to keep the place up, but I was amazed at the number of code-related issues that had to be dealt with," Schulman says. Yet the sale took only about two months from start to finish.

"When it comes to multifamily apartments in this community, there's an understanding that Steve Lipkin is the go-to person," Schulman says.

Hasting savored the rise of the internet and the fall of the market, Lapins says he feels pretty good about where things stand. The housing inventory in Burlington continues to be tight, and vacancy rates are low, making the city attractive to investors. When properties do come on the market, they typically receive multiple offers and sell quickly. Lapins says, "In general, our market is pretty darn steady."

And steadily in flow by this husband and father of two. He's invested in one multifamily property himself, but says he has no plans to turn from real estate agent to magnate. As for his family's own home, Lipkin chose "a fat-cooked, 1950s ranch that had a tiled basement" on Crescent Road in Burlington. He says he was drawn to it because its location beside a ravine gives it a wooded feel, and he's since fixed it up nicely.

Reflecting on his rise from copier salesman to accomplished real estate agent, Lipkin recalls the guidance he got from David Gray, the realtor who mentored him at Coldwell Banker: "Stay honest and treat people fairly, and you'll be able to sleep at night."

Lipin says he's made that his credo, but he fine-tuned it to fit the intimate environs of the Queen City. "Treat people fairly, and you don't have to hide behind the aisles in the grocery store" ☐

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Pine Street and the Chocolate Factory

Taste Test: South End Kitchen BY ALICE LEVITT



Reforming a certain World War II classic is only natural when discussing South End Kitchen. After all, the new Burlington breakfast-and-lunch spot is flanked on one side by beer-to-her-lady Bandon Chocolate Maker and on the other side by a culinary classroom featuring instruction in chocolate making (see sidebar). These company take Chompkins Chocolate displays its products all over the café, from chocolate chips on sale in the small retail area to square tins of multi-pan sauce with which diners can dress their meals.

The 8,500-square-foot former South Supply building has been transformed into a chocolate-y wonderland. But diners at the bar-side tables or long communal counters can choose from plenty of savory fare, too.

For cuties: chef Sarah Lange, a former New England Culinary Institute chef-instructor, has instituted a hyper-homemade ethos. The kitchen's breads, pastas and even croissants, ricotta and cream frittata are crafted in-house. Even its lacovers, from-scratch Burlington, that's an exceptional commitment to freshness—but it comes with drawbacks. Creating a new menu each day for both

meals is a major hassle. In the three meals I had at the new Pine Street hot spot, the kitchen's difficulty balancing these demands manifested often, though not always, in a delicious way of three.

As my first request at the mostly old restaurant, I sampled the new kid's all-day brunch, including a pair of crispies filled with housemade lemon ricotta and strawberries. The pillowy, cheese-filled pancakes made me think blintz more than crepe. While the former is my preference, the dish as a whole was surprisingly low on flavor.

At that same brunch, the Monte Cristo's fluffy French toast—an housemade cranberry bread was a seasonal treat. Despite a dusting of powdered sugar on the thick sandwich, though, the only real taste came from the ham and Swiss at its center. A side salad was nicely seasoned with a shallot-cracked dressing, but the plate was still somehow light on character.

At lunch later in the week, I had a more memorable experience with the pork meal. The dish has already appeared a few times on the bill of fare, and it was obvious why. Though I wouldn't have minded more meat in the meat plating, the spicy, chocolate-y sauce was lovely in

texture and nutty with pumpkin seeds. Thick and savory, it was brightened by a few of fresh cilantro.

Chocolate doesn't usually dominate in the way it did in this one. But as the sauce seeped into the cracks and crevices of a fatty chunk of tender pork shoulder and the aromatic yellow rice on the side, I was hooked. This entrée tasted as indulgent as dessert. My one complaint was the lack of a vegetable to counter the heaviness.

I also enjoyed that day's Asian pork-and-egg roll soup. Because unlike from many broth, and the tender meatballs were flecked with dulse flakes. Together, the two pork dishes made a great lunch, with leftovers to eat the next day. But I ordered another shock when the two-in-one meal rang up at \$17.95 (my last expensive meal at \$6.95).

My brief meal for this review featured a large and delicious salad of shaved chicken, apple and fennel over arugula. While the tangy vinaigrette made the light, bright veggie and fruit a delight, the \$8 salad would not have sustained me through any day. Some cheese or meat might have saved the chef's vision, but the protein would have been welcome.

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SIDEdishes

BY COTY HIRSCH & ALICE LEVITT

Blue Plate

CALIFORNIA CUISINE
COMES TO STEVE

PERSKY has the women behind

JAMIES ON MAIN: the popular Main Street breakfast-and-lunch spot that Persky and her husband **2. JIMMY BORDMAN**, sold in 2011. "We stopped loving it and stopped having a good time," Persky recalls. But the couple will return to the restaurant: but on March 12 when they open **PLATE**.

The two Los Angeles natives have taken over 95 Main Street with a well-defined concept. They'll bring California cuisine to Vermont.

plans to do a daily "pasta dish," though his first offering is semi-pasta, a gluten-free-friendly croissant wrap with spaghetti squash instead of noodles.

Steel, veggie and salmon burgers will have their place on the menu. The beef burger will be cold-smoked before grilling, then served on challah with housemade aioli and pickles.

Just don't expect fuss with that. The 80-seat restaurant has no frills. That means even pub-food staples such as chicken wings will take breakfast forms there.

Persky's huge mercantile window has been attracting attention from locals, Persky says. The couple will introduce dinner first and start serving lunch eventually. As for morning fare, Persky says she had her fill of that at Jamie's on Main, joking, "I didn't even want to eat breakfast anymore."

— A.L.

Sips & Blips

BROCK AND ALE HOUSE TO OPEN
IN SOUTH BURLINGTON

"When we were kids, all we wanted to do was hang out in arcades and play video games, but we didn't have any money. Now that we're adults and have money, there aren't any arcades anymore."

That's how **JOSHUA NICKERSON** explains the motivation behind **THE CLASSIC ARCADE AND ALE HOUSE**, which will open along Route 7 in South Burlington later this spring.

Nickerson is partnering with **TRISH COOK**, the former managing partner at **HEWLETT-BUSINESS PUBLIC HOUSE** to fill a 2,500-square-foot, two-level space with dozens of pinball machines and arcade games, including Pac-Man, Centipede and Galaga. "We'll have 12 to 14 pinball machines to start, and 18 to 15 arcade games," says Nickerson, a radiologist at Fletcher Allen Medical Care, who modeled 7th on similar venues he's owned in other cities.

Tik will have tables, booths and a "long" bar with 15 taps — most of them devoted to local craft brews — as well as Vermont spirits. Dodge is planning a menu of "easy-to-carry-around-with-you food," says Nickerson — which might include burgers, chili and fish tacos. Nickerson and Dodge intend the space at 7 Empire Drive — near the Police 9 Center — through Peter Via of Yellow Sign Commercial. The partners hope to have Tik open by late May or early June. We're getting our trigger fingers ready.

— C.H.

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COURTESY OF PLATE



COURTESY OF PERSKY AND BORDMAN



Chef JAMIE BORDMAN, a chef of the **WOOD AND STEVE MOUNTAIN LODGE** here, has the hard side. The young cook spent October doing a stage at Alice Waters' San Francisco bi-coastal mecca, Chez Panisse. "I have an open invitation to go back if I ever find the time," says Martin, who adds that he is now in a bit of California haze on the hard head to cook "healthier and lighter food."

For Plate, that means lots of egg, hearty salads, along with dishes coming to us via and gluten-free entrees. Martin

Savoring Styria

AUSTRIAN CUISINE comes to **JOEY LANE VILLAGE**. **JOEY** Get ready for schnitzel, sauerbraten and Hungarian goulash goodness. **Austrian chef MARTIN HALLIDAY**, who hit the Vermont-Quebec border line and his wife, Paula, has to open **JOEY LANE VILLAGE** in two weeks,

after six months of remodeling the 120-year-old bed and breakfast. His restaurant will be a showcase for Halliday's well-practiced nature cuisine. Most recently, Halliday spent 14 years at Royal Caribbean International, where he was named the first senior executive chef of the entire fleet. In his earlier years, he cooked across Austria,

Germany, Switzerland and South Africa before heading to the New York and Connecticut suburbs in the 1980s.

The food at Derby Lane will be mostly less-heralded than that of the Michelin-starred restaurants where Halliday learned his craft, but he says he'll bring the techniques he acquired over his 30-year career

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|| SIDEdishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45

to the Northeast Kingdom. He spared no expense, making sure that his kitchen includes "pretty much every cooking method except sous vide."

Given Austria's central location in Europe, the cuisine overlaps with that of many neighboring countries, Hildebrand says. The chef plans to make his own pasta, in addition to domestic versions of the meaty dishes already mentioned. "You've gotta have sausage," he adds — including house-smoked, from-scratch breakfast and knockouts.

Hildebrand was trained in an Knorr-style brigade system, he says, and considers it of almost importance to a five-star restaurant to young chefs. When the menu opens, two students will be on hand, learning to make apple strudel, Black Forest cake and soufflé.

—A.L.

Firing Up

BURLINGTON BEER COMPANY OFFICE IN WILKESVILLE
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opened last week in a Wilkesville warehouse. Owner-brewer

JOHN LAMNATH is busy brewing those initial offerings on a 15-gallon pilot system, which he'll use until he gets the regulatory green light on his 15-barrel system later this month.

Visitors can sample Lamnath's opening lineup — which also includes a Jackwren and a porter brewed with sour cherries — in the tasting room of his 4,700-square-foot brewery at 25 Orange Drive, suite 150. They won't be able to fill growlers,



though, until the full system is up and running.

Since Lamnath began scouting locations for his brewery as late 2012, he's been committed to rolling out "farmers-market-inspired beers" that draw on locally sourced fruits, herbs and other flavors, he says. Including

with those principles, he's started a beer CSA. For a one-time fee, members get first crack at new beers and special bottlings.

Check out our [Bite Club](#) blog later this week for more information and tasting notes on Burlington Beer Company's beers.

—C.W.

CONNECT

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Curtis Hirsch, @curtis_hirsch
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More food after the classified section
PAGE 47

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Chocolate Factory

I got that substance instead from beefy smothered Bologna, served in an adorable mini cast-iron pan. The cheesy, homemade "triple corn" were a delight, but the bread-studded sauce lacked oomph.

I finished that meal with the best thing I've eaten thus far at SEK. I didn't realize that what Burlington had been missing were old-fashioned, mid-century style sandwiches, but the #82 opened my eyes. Now it's likely to be a regular in my dessert repertoire.

To me, the tall vanilla's homemade maple-butter-pecan ice cream felt like

an afterthought. The #82's appeal was all about the smorg of toppings, including crunchy maple popcorn, wares, tender dried apples, and lots of whipped cream.

THE PORK MOLE ENTRÉE TASTED AS INDULGENT AS DESSERT.

When I plunged my spoon to the bottom, it scooped up wonderfully balanced pulled-caramel sauce, pecking up bits of each layer on its way back to my mouth.

I tried a number of other desserts at SEK, but none were me over so

powerfully as the #82. Bitters, glazed monkey bread and a mixed doughnut with fresh-strawberry-flecked frosting were delicious, but a distant second and third.

Some of the smorg cans still have room to improve at South End Kitchen. But, not surprisingly, the cafe attached to a chocolate factory is right where it should be when it comes to sweets. ☐

INFO

South End Kitchen 376 Pine Street, Burlington 804-260-6000 southendkitchenvt.com



Chocolate bar making from South End Kitchen

SWEET SCIENCE

The genre these days seems with an air of handwringing, sending you off from the suburbs. But there's nothing to fear in Sunny McCord's chocolate bar making class. Unless, maybe, yours make you nervous.

The housing class seems to have quickly become the industry at South End Kitchen's education center. This space has one head-to-head with cookbook author Wally Dwyer's Slow Food Vermont. Tastings and chocolate making workshops are the new price point — at \$25 — belongs to McCord's class and students get to leave with four chocolate bars.

I took the workshop twice in two weeks and was right back there, chocolate sampler. McCord's makes even the simplest special about the new space seems delicious, but she especially shines when sharing her cacao wisdom.

Could you make the same bars at home? Following McCord's lead and using Sunny Cacao Bar chocolate? Sure, but you'd have to bring the chocolate yourself, then clean up. And you wouldn't meet McCord's top. For example,

inspire visitors to the century she heads first that while chocolate qualifies as chocolate. It may be mixed up the chocolate liquor that makes other chocolate bars, but McCord's says the key factor is the cacao butter base.

She shows participants how to fill their molds with softened milk and dark chocolate. The latter of which she refers to as a perpetually running chocolate fountain in one corner of the expansive space. Students then do a single mold to place to wrap things such as blueberries, dried cherries and pretzels into their molds. After 30 minutes in the freezer the bars are ready to wrap and take home.

On my second visit, I brought my own mix-ins of lavender, vanilla and salt from the adjacent store in the same building. My "Baked of Nature" may be my favorite chocolate bar I've ever tasted. April 1 would have been too long to make it at home. When I'd have had to clean up after myself. Bar anyone who's been late playing Wally World. It's well worth the \$25.

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A Gentler Exit

A writer bids farewell to her beef cows — with the help of a new on-farm mobile slaughter unit

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

Slightly more than three years ago, one bull, five cows and two calves arrived at the farm in Skeltonham where I live with my husband, Colin Davis. In the years since, our herd has grown to 17 We — and here the cattle hide almost entirely no Colin and his father — built fences and installed hay. We learned how to drive cattle, to restrain, to stoke the fire under the meat when someone (me) let the cows escape their fences. We killed water troughs and bottle-fed the occasional sick calf. And on a recent Friday, we slaughtered the first four animals from our herd of Scottish Highland beef cows.

We did it on the farm, thanks to a visit from Vermont's first large-animal mobile slaughter unit.

A year ago, slaughtering these animals on our farm would have meant hiring an itinerant butcher, who likely would have carved the meat in a carcass hang from the butcher's large tractor. It would have meant the final cuts, wrapped in white butcher's paper, would have borne the stamp "Not For Sale" — in other words only for consumption by friends and family, or for sale on the black market that many ag officials acknowledge exists.

Instead, a U.S. Department of Agriculture inspector looked on as butchers from New Haven's Green Pasture Meats slaughtered three steers and one bull. The slaughter happened inside a 36-foot trailer with its own generator, ideal use with clean water and electricity and heavy metal windows. In the afternoon, the meat headed to Green Pasture Meats, where it will hang and age for two to three weeks. And it most certainly will be for sale.



Just a few years after state officials and farmers borrowed processing capacity in a major battleship in Vermont's Greenleaf food landscape, the mobile slaughter unit — along with new slaughterhouses slated to go in across the state — is opening traffic along.

"I think, just like we need a diversity of farms, it's great to have a diversity of scales and models of meat processors," said Chelsea Berdot Lewis, an agricultural policy administrator at the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. "There have been some great, positive steps forward in terms of increasing capacity."

The Green Pasture Meats trailer is the state's first mobile slaughter unit intended for large animals — cows, horses and pigs. Vermont previously experienced with mobile poultry slaughtering. In 2008, the

state pooled \$95,000 in legislative funding with private foundation money to purchase a custom-built, 36-foot trailer for a total cost of \$95,000. The plan was to create demand for the service and then either an entrepreneur or take over — so the state put the unit up for auction in early 2012. It went to Dodge town. Davis' husband and wife team of David Robb and Lili Bennett for \$61,000. Last year, the farmers slaughtered 2,000 birds — mostly chickens and turkeys, but also some guinea fowl and ducks. This year they're offering farmers custom processing under inspection.

The unit behind GPM's mobile unit in Addison County in Smith's town, who entered the meat processing world without much butchery experience. Smith, who grew up in Vermont and worked

on farms, was seeking to branch out into a new business after work at his construction company slowed down. While visiting a friend who raises grass-fed beef in Colorado, Smith started thinking about the meat industry life depressed about an "old-time butcher shop" where he could sell Vermont-raised beef, pork and lamb from a well-up center.

The dream would become GPM. But Smith quickly realized that to control the quality of meat coming into his shop, he'd need to control the slaughter and butchering, too.

Straight-up common sense tells you that on-farm slaughter, where the animals aren't being transported long distances — is a lot less stressful for the animals," Smith said. He researched mobile slaughter units — MSUs, an industry shorthand — and settled on a design used in Washington state, often a slaughter livestock on stands in

Page's Sound that don't have slaughterhouses of their own.

Last May, Smith's custom unit — a \$235,000, 36-foot-long trailer — hit the road. Since then, Smith and his employees have focused primarily on slaughtering animals that they sell under their own label at GPM. They buy directly from farmers, mostly in Addison County and will sell the meat as a Roast 7 months just north of Middlebury. Everything in their meat cases — with a few exceptions such as bacon and smoked sausage — comes through their own slaughter unit.

A few months ago, the company started taking on other customers — such as Collins and me — who were looking to have a few animals slaughtered and didn't want the trucked to another location. The MSU

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has also withheld from state inspection (which means meat could be sold only as "venison" to USDA inspection).

"We're in totally uncharted territory in terms of the process," Smith said. He noted that the state's state-of inspection of foods here being helped along the way, but for everyone involved, he said, "It's been a huge learning curve."

You could say the same is true at our farms. For several weekends, Colin and David, Mike, spent hours running our cows through our small corral, hoping to get the Highlanders comfortable with what would be added to them as slaughtering day. As with every other aspect of farming, we're learning to see go.

And, 37 adult, 1 was nervous (I'd already seen animals killed and butchered, including two goats we raised a few seasons before. A little more than a year ago, I'd tagged along with itinerant butcher Master Whimpy when he slaughtered a steer at a Middlesex Springs farm. I was horribly queasy — and six weeks pregnant, news I shared not to Whimpy nor the cook of the locally slaughtered steer nearly did me in.) I wanted my husband, the butcher to chaff up my nerves to farm-ness, not city girl squeamishness.

This time around, I knew I couldn't blame hormones if the day's slaughter turned my stomach. And this time I knew the cows by name: Magic, Steve, Mike and Paul.

It was apparent early on that both the novice farmers and our much-cared-for cows were in good hands. The butchers arrived early and were ready to begin by 9 a.m. We stood in the shade, damp beneath misting on the USDA inspector, who'd gotten lost en route to the farm. Once he pulled up, the team was in constant motion. There's no hard work.

Taking the helm was Jeff Nichols of Rutland. The butcher has owned three slaughterhouses in the region in his long career; he now works most days at Eagle Bridge Custom Meat and Butchery in New York. Nichols was a leather apron that extended to his ankles. Around his waist was a belt-like chain, from which dangled his knives and knife sharpener. Working alongside him were Greg Cassano and Dylan Barrows of CPW.

We got off to an easy start. First up was Steve, our blind steer. He had a rough start in life, when Colin and I had to smother an esophageal feeder down his throat to get milk replace into his belly. We kept him alive, but not before an early infection left him blind. We made a few attempts at integrating him into the herd, but he was always bellowing through the electric fence and so mostly stuck to

the corral. He only ever learned to make left turns.

At just a year and a half old, Steve was younger and smaller than our other steers — but he was living on borrowed time. Barrows and Cassano guided him into the squeeze chute they had brought to the farm. He went easily, docile and unconcerned. Then, master-of-death, Nichols shot him between the eyes with a pistol. Steve went down immediately. The team jumped into action — moving him from the squeeze chute, lifting him up with a tractor-toe loader and over a large plastic tub, and then quickly transferring the carcass into the mobile unit itself.

At the head end of the trailer, the animals were skinned and cut into halves. The meat went into a large cooler space at the vehicle's foot. All told, it took about an hour to slaughter and process a cow.

The morning was not without its problems. Mike the cow, slotted among new faces and wary of the chute, jumped the fence with surprising ease for a steer his size. Mike the man, my father-in-law, scrambled to build up the corral's fence with many brother Nichols, Barrows and Cassano all did into the pen at various points to move the cows expeditiously and calmly.

Our massive bull, Magic, seemed too large for the chute — but in the end he made it through the narrow lane, and my father-in-law led him as apple just before Barrows pointed a high-powered rifle at Magic's head. That was the hardest kill to watch. Magic was a wise, gentle bull, our longest friend.

For the past three years, when I tell people that I raise beef cattle, they ask if we, "do it hard?" Meaning it is hard to kill the animals you care for? Is it hard to eat them?

"I don't know yet," I would answer. We always destined these animals to become beef, they're most certainly not pets. We're impossible not to care for them. They're beautiful, sassy and real, with great, elegant horns. When we snorehore or sit through the woods in the winter they watch us curiously from the pastures. In the springtime, they toss their heads and fold when we turn them into more green-gold fields. As calves, they're playful as mothers, they're wonderful and diligent. I woke up to a view of the cows most mornings, and they bring me great pleasure.

So, was it hard? Yes. No, after bidding farewell to Nichols, Cassano and Barrows, I reminded myself that these animals had a good life. We strive, as farmers, to give them that much. When it comes time for slaughter, we can give them a good death, too. ☺



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PHOTO: JAMES J. O'NEILL



Located at the intersection of world music and traditional music, the Alan Kelly Gang reimagines a Celtic repertoire with a diverse (and imaginative) approach. Led by piano accordion virtuoso Alan Kelly (Ireland's ambassador of time-tested tunes), the band masterfully arranges with the skilled instrumentation of fiddler Sophie Geremia, fiddle player Alasdair White, and guitarist Tony Byrne. The result? A mix of technical prowess and captivating live performances that stops listeners in their tracks. The band honors its Emerald Isle heritage with a concert featuring dancers from the Celtic Knights and the McFadden Academy of Irish Dance.

ALAN KELLY GANG

Saturday, March 8, 7 to 10 p.m., at McEntee Arts Center, 35 McEntee College in Columbus.
\$10 suggested donation. Info: 603-689-0993
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MAR.08 | MUSIC



MAR.08 & 09 | CONFERENCES

Be Here Now

Looking to limber up after a long winter? Head to the Burlington Yoga Conference, where a weekend of classes, workshops and presentations unites students, teachers and area studios under one roof. Local and international yoga adepts to the motto "to empower change within" at this first good gathering of teaching styles suitable for all skill levels. Of the mat, attendees feast on farm-to-table vegetarian fare and take advantage of bodywork and a "retail marketplace." Closing out the stretching sessions, keynote Laura Maynor Tuckey leads participants on their way with a reflection on the poetic perspectives of India and Tibet.

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Saturday, March 8 and Sunday, March 9, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., at UVM Sports Center in Burlington. \$30-\$65.
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events

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du/ice

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TRAVEL, YAKI, IRELAND Photographs and travel advice. Features a book by David L. L. including facts, wild foods, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Without Borders and Southern Open Space. Southern Open Space. Mountain 8 p.m. Contact: info@jennifers-journal.com

theater

EXPOSE OF THE YEAR A cut of digital artwork projects from 1,144 and 1,000th Thompson is a production of the National Security Agency. Broder Center for the Arts. Johnson State College. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 800-3430

GOOD PEOPLE Sat 7:00-8:30 p.m.
NATIONAL THEATRE LIT. COPIES/JOE A musical production of the novel by a comedy club. Lake Henderson opposite North Gates in a park full of historic mansions and settings. Town Hall Theatre, Newbury. 7:30 p.m. \$12-25. Info: 437-9541

words

CORIN HIRSH has written a sequel to the Shortland Islander events. The post is a regular series of columns. New Line. Presses. Books Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 344-3330

FRI.07

business

BOOK & BAKE SALE Homemade treats, cards, and other items. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Open. Contact: info@jennifers-journal.com

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community

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environment

BUTTERNUT TREES CONFERENCE Lumber apprentices of all breeds meet with two days of classes and workshops on the art of tree care. See schedule on page 18. Oski Center, Lake Burlington 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$30. \$10. 363-5233.

HEALTHY & SAFE EXPO Parents and expectant mothers learn about fetal evaluations, vitamins and products that help babies healthy. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$6. Info. 363-5233.

dance

CONTRAST DANCE & FOLK DANCE American, Irish and European dance for all levels. For the 10th anniversary of the local dance. All levels are taught. Chatham Square, East Weymouth 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

NEWBORN DANCE CLASS Falls in dance class designed for babies to Northern Spk and calling to Grand Malaga. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

SWING DANCE Quick lesson participants experience a different style, and having the first step. Chatham Square, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

education

SAR PHIP CLASS Learn to make a book. Bookkeeping, accounting, school students and their parents. Strategies for teaching the standardized test. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

etc.

RAIN HOBBSMAN PARTY Say hello to the residents of the Mountain Kingdom. Mountain Kingdom, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

arts & festivals

NEWBORN CHILD FESTIVAL Meet and celebrate the newborn. Free event with a variety of activities for all ages. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

films

WIKI UP ON PUPPY HILL In Goro Miyazaki's animated film, a Japanese teen fights to save his friend's childhood home from being demolished to make room for the 1984 Tokyo Olympics. Open Auditorium, South Burlington Community College 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

ROBINETTE WESTERN Local filmmakers have and Jim Henson's work. Currently featuring a cast of 10th graders who played the roles of the lead in a tough and tough action movie. Open Auditorium, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

THE BIGGEST KID The Ben Moyer's story. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

WOODSTEAD FILM SERIES A high school student in the film series. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

FOOD & DRINK LUNCH & CARRIAGE SUPPER. Food and drink. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MARGARET BARNETT. A unique story. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

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books

LEA HODGSON The local author. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

OPEN TOP GYM & INDEPENDENT PLAY TIME A unique story. Hickey Hall, South Burlington 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10. \$5. 363-5233.

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MARCH 14

Home Movie: An American Folk Art. A documentary short from 1932 that examines the tradition of home movies. The Museum shares some of its own, as well, with a group discussion about the recording of memories and experiences. 7:30 p.m.

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calendar

ALSO SEE PG. 16

film

THANKS TO MY EX See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

food & drink

COLOGAN-BRIDE AREA CLASS Helen Hoyer of the
Bridal Bakery teaches down the steps of making
brunswick-style baked beans with a homemade
sauce. Baking class, 10 AM to 12 PM, \$15. Call
Helen Hoyer at (800) 475-6269 or 800-475-6269 in the
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STARS ON STAGE See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

books

BOOKS FOR KIDS Library of Congress and
Hutchinson County Library System. For: through
eightth grade students. Free. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

HERNIMONT THEATRE New York's renowned
puppet presents: *Once Upon a Time*.
Luna's Story. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

BOOKS FOR KIDS Library of Congress and
Hutchinson County Library System. For: through
eightth grade students. Free. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

entertainment

STONEREAL ESTATE AUCTIONS See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

light

RAISE YOUR ARTS GROUP A meeting, meeting
and evening social event. 10 PM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

music

COUNTRY MUSIC TO NEW YORK LIGHTS See
SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

MUSIC WOLF QUARTET Drawing on 20 years
of experience, the band is back. 10 PM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

JULIANNE WINKLER Grammy award winner.
10 PM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

NEW PLANNED HOPKINSON MUSIC
See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

SHAWNEE The Shawnee Music Center.
10 PM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

REBEKAH SHERMAN See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

VERMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

WINTERFEST See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

people

CARIBBEAN TRAIL CLASSIC Backcountry
trail between Bolton Valley Resort and Tappan
Family Lodge offers a magnificent scenic view
of the Adirondack Park. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

WINTER PICKUP OCCURS Great food and
drinks. 10 PM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

books

JOHN PHILLIPS & TULLY ZEPHERMAN The
author of *The Book of David*. 10 PM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Saturdays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM
Sundays. 10 AM to 12 PM, 1:30 PM to 3 PM

theater

A BRIGHT ROOM CALLER ON See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

CHARLIE'S HOUSE See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

GOD PEOPLE See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

ON THE TOWN AUCTIONS See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

sports

ALTERNATIVE LITERATURE & POETRY
See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

THANKS TO MY EX See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

MON. 10

dance

ON THE TOWN AUCTIONS See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

etc.

ARTS & CRAFTS ASSISTANCE See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

film

THE HUNTER HEART See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

food & drink

REBEKAH SHERMAN See SAT 6P, 7:30 PM

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Higher Ground
Showcase Lounge
Go to www.higherground.com and answer 2 trivia questions
Or, come by Eyes of the World (168 Battery, Burlington)
Deadline: 03/14 at 10 PM. Winners notified by 5 p.m.
WIN TIX!

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

JUMP KINETICS Capable of any challenge, Jump Kinetics offers workshops for groups supporting the Joint Union Meeting. **Info:** Betsy Bonville, 5-3 p.m. Saturdays, info: 862-4501

PERCEIVED LINGERS Perceived Lingers joins Redmond & Jason Redmond with dance artists from the dance community and local artists in support of the Mount Mansfield Community Center. **Burlington:** 8-10 p.m. 50-60 participants at the event. **Info:** 862-4501

grooming

GRIMES CLIMB See 9:00-10:15 p.m.

TRAVELING NIGHT Travelers offering a meeting for the minor lobby. **Info:** 862-4501

Health & fitness

NEURAL COMPLEXITY Betsy Bonville, Larkin Bunker, Gabe Hale and students from the Vermont Center for Aging and Health evaluate individual consciousness and health conditions. **City Market, Burlington:** 4-5 p.m. Free presentation at info: 862-4501

8-11 P.M. - See 8:00-10:00

RECIPE FOR HEALING: NEURAL GALLERY Clinical research from Mount Mansfield Center for Aging and Health. **Info:** 862-4501

Religion

ALICE WINTERBLOOM Youngstown, Ohio author of *Winterblooms* and *Prayer for the Living* and *Prayer for the Living* and *Prayer for the Living*. **Info:** 862-4501

MUSIC WITH PETER Peter Bonville, 5-7 p.m. 50-60 participants at the event. **Info:** 862-4501

NATURE TALKS: SCIENCE Environmental talks and photos. **Info:** 862-4501

BEARING BLOODS Upright piano. **Info:** 862-4501

8-11 P.M. - See 8:00-10:00

SPRING BREAK: NEURAL GALLERY Clinical research from Mount Mansfield Center for Aging and Health. **Info:** 862-4501

8-11 P.M. - See 8:00-10:00

MONDAY NIGHT DANCE Betsy Bonville, Larkin Bunker, Gabe Hale and students from the Vermont Center for Aging and Health. **Info:** 862-4501

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FAMILY-FRIENDLY MATINEE

Continued on page 10

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Almost Famous

Comedian Hannibal Buress talks comedy, writing for television and his sorta-celebrity status

BY DAN BOULLES

Comedian Hannibal Buress likes to have a little fun with rap music in his act. A couple of years back, he joked about a "Young Jeezy song, 'Loss My Mind,' in which the rapper states, 'I house stoned dumb-bag my ass on got meen.'"

"No, Jeezy" quipped Buress. "Those are clowns."

Most comedians would never get a response to a joke about a famous person from said famous person. But Buress did. In an interview with *Rolling Stone*, Jeezy was asked about Buress's joke.

"He said that about me?" said Jeezy. "Yah, his crib probably ain't as big as mine, that's all."

"That was pretty funny," concedes Buress in Jeezy's response in a recent interview with *Rolling Stone*.

Given his increasing success, the New York City-based comic may need to choose his words carefully when joking about rappers. Buress is currently the cohost of *The Eric Andre Show* on Adult Swim, as well as a series regular on the animated FX series *Comedians* and the Comedy Central series *Imreal City*. Formerly, he worked as a writer on the NBC shows *Saturday Night Live* and *30 Rock*. "I'm now stand-up special," Hannibal Buress. Live From Chicago will premiere on Comedy Central on March 29. In short, Buress is a comedian on the break of stardom — though, as we discovered, he'd likely be the last to admit it.

In advance of his show at the Higher Ground Ballroom in South Burlington that Sunday, March 8, we spoke with Buress by phone the morning after his appearance on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

SEVEN DAYS I caught you on *'The Tonight Show'* last night. Which the Jerry Fallon experience like?

HANNIBAL BURESS It was cool, man. It was cool to be the first non-billionaire comedian on the show.

SD Is doing a late night show as big a deal for a comedian as it used to be? Once upon a time, doing Carson or Letterman could essentially break a comic. How it seems like you already have to have a name to be on.



HANNIBAL BURESS

HB It depends. I mean, I just did a set on a new show with high ratings. So that's a big deal for me. A lot after I'm doing. I got a job writing on *'Saturday Night Live'* from my act on *'Fallon'* four years ago. So it doesn't have that automatic cachet where people will come out to your act the next night. But if lives online and people will decide whether to come see you based on that. So it might not be an immediate career changer. But it shows what you're able to do and, for someone like me, who is a touring comedian, it can help.

SD I've heard the "SNL" writing experience can be really cutthroat. Did you enjoy it?

HB I did enjoy it. It was a different experience than just doing standup. It was tough, and I didn't get many sketches on. But it was a good experience. I learned a lot about writing and working in TV. And I got on *'30 Rock'* from that.

SD Do you enjoy working collaboratively like that, or do you prefer to do your own thing?

HB I like both. Writing with other people is kind of a flow. You say something

and somebody else adds something to it, changes a word or takes it in a different direction. Working in a group, you're trying to make each other laugh. So that's fun and it's different from working solo, where you have to rely on your own instincts.

SD You've had a pretty great year. Has that success changed your life in any specific ways?

HB Maybe a little bit. I wouldn't say I'm famous. But the more people have words me in a little different, like when I'm out and about and someone recognizes me, and they're drunk. That can be a little bit weird. But for the most part it's fine, man. And I'm just happy to be working.

SD So you don't have to put on a disguise to go grocery shopping?

HB Nah, man. That's what it is. I'm not street famous. I'm bar famous. Drunks know me.

SD Do they ask you to do bits from your act?

HB Nobody wants bits, really. They want peev on their phone to put on Facebook or whatever. It can be a little bit annoying.

But it means something to them, which is pretty cool.

SD You recently toured with Dave Chapelle.

HB That was really cool. I've been a fan of his since I was young. It's one of the best standups ever. Actually in 2004 in Chicago, at the height of *'The Chapelle Show'*, I snuck into the Congress Theater to see him. So to go from sneaking into a show to see him to doing shows with him... that was really awesome.

SD You have a pretty unique style. Is that something you consciously work on or is it more simply a product of who you are?

HB It's mostly just me. But sometimes I'll do something like, I'll be telling a joke and it'll be a sudden might just say one word that's really LOUD like that. That's because, early on I was doing bar shows and maybe over here somebody is taking. I don't want to break the rhythm of my joke, so instead I'll get really loud in the middle of my joke. That's a teacher move. But that's part of my style now.

SD Hip-hop is a big part of your act.

HB I started out doing comedy at music open mics. And sometimes I would freestyle. I've always really loved hip-hop and it's something I like to talk about — lyrics, where the fuck they're saying. I'll record a crazy lyric and listen to it 20 times. So it's what I'm obsessed on, which is what I talk about in my comedy rap lines, parting and doing my thing.

SD You made a joke about Young Jeezy and he actually responded. Does knowing rappers might actually have your jokes now give you any hesitation in doing jokes about them?

HB No. I'm not doing jokes out of a mean place. The song I usually talk about me saying I like, artists I enjoy. So I'm having fun. But who knows? If people get mad, let people get mad. ☺

INFO

Hannibal Buress: Sunday, March 8, 8 p.m., at the Higher Ground Ballroom in South Burlington, VT. \$24.99

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music CLUB DATES

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CLUB ANTHERBURY "No Vagabond"
 10:00 PM - 12:00 AM
DRINK Comedy Showcase (stand-up
 comedy) 10:00 PM

EAST SIDE VIBES 10:00 PM - 12:00 AM
NOB 10:00 PM - 12:00 AM
FOURTH & PINE Close to the River
 10:00 PM

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB The
 Manhattan Diner 10:00 PM - 12:00 AM
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Culture Club

Rhode Island's **SAVITA MANTRA** embodies the idea of America as a cultural
 melting pot. The band's members usually hail from small-town America, major cities and Latin
 America. Their music reflects that multiplicity of experiences and perspectives, combining fiery
 Latin groove and fence rock and roll into a rich, multicultural sound that's as danceable as it is
 diverse. Catch Savita Mantra at Nocturn's in Burlington this Saturday, March 8

antwerp/savage area

THE B&B (B&B) 10:00 PM - 12:00 AM
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antwerp/savage area

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REVIEW *this*

Entendre, Entendre

(SELF-RELEASED CD/DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

The well-to-do handful of Stowe, VT, as hardly known, are hoisted of big hip-hop. And as it stands now, Stowe-based trio Entendre will likely be little to change that. The group's self-titled debut, while slickly produced and boasting a few solid performances, is at best an uneven attempt, edging by time on sequencing and spotty execution. Still, there may be some recent potential lurking within in the record's 11 tracks.

Producer Matthew Bergman, aka DJVU, does craft some nifty beats and seems to have a creative, natural mind. His hardwork is characterized by frequent beats with a light melodic bias. Though he's not exactly revolutionizing hip-hop production, he is a progressive approach that provides some compelling moments, not to mention a colorful backdrop against which his listeners could and should shine. It's just a shame they don't do more to clean up the scenery.



Ryan Dennis, aka Yoda, is a technically proficient rapper. He rhymes with an easy, elastic cadence. His flow is malleable, he's easily comfortably bouncing through anthemic raps, such as opener "Happens to the All," as he is navigating more intricate beats, as on "Empty Sky." At times he's even witty but too often, Dennis relies on obvious punch lines, nowhere more so than on "Butterface."

The song is a tired riff on an even more fatigued joke. It goes something like, "She's pretty hot... but her face! It's juvenile, sure! Misogynistic? A little. But the real crime is that it's just not that funny or clever. It's also a bit of a head-scratcher when you consider the earnestness of the record's later notes ("These songs are the sounds of four hearts, souls and passions").

Rising above the record's misfire is the performance of vocalist and

co-songwriter Lauren Paine. Paine may have a decent voice, but it's tough to say for certain based on her work here. Throughout the tenorist's over-the-top, as a result, her pitch slides lazily on nearly every cut — to the point that she almost sounds bored. A little bit of intonation slippage, especially in service to a larger stylistic choice, is generally fine. But that is not.

As debuts go, Entendre's is a disappointment. That's the reason to think they could improve the next time out. DJVU is a budding talent. Youthful shows real promise, at least when he's not using middle school dick jokes. And Paine, with better attention to intonation, could be an effective singer. The seeds are there. Entendre just need to cultivate them.

Entendre by Entendre is available at cdulph.com.

DAN HOLLES

SCAN THIS PAGE WITH LAPIN TO GET THE TRACKS



Poor and Perfect, Ribs/Friends, Heart, Family

(JACKSONVILLE COUNTRY, FRANCE)

Poor and Perfect represent the latest venture from Chris Rosequest, formerly of the Providence, R.I.-based alt-country band the Tower and the Pool. Since leaving that band, Rosequest has landed in big South Baytown, TX, where he's been writing and recording alongside some notable locals, including Art Green, Zac Clark and Mike Posner — the last two of whom also played in the Tower and the Pool for a time. In an email passed along by his label, Academic Tapas, Rosequest says he's been "working as a new creative platform to release music." The result of that work is a new cover of the "digital 7 inch," Ribs/Friends/Heart, Family. Interestingly, Rosequest's "new" creative outlet harks to a fairly old one.

During Rosequest's tenure, the Tower and the Pool ranked the melancholy 1990s alt-rock of bands such as Counting Crows and Gin Blossoms — groups whose lasting legacies might be



as two of that era's greatest of pleasures. Rosequest doesn't exactly *shy away* from those retroactive's musical influences. (What? as if you didn't rock out to "Rise Johnny" like the rest of us.) But he's not necessarily beholden to them, either. Colored by a rambling malleable flow, the lead cut, "Ribs," is a rolling show of twangy pop that borrows both melodic and structural cues from the likes of Mason, Davis, Hopkins and, to a lesser degree, the Lemonheads. Ryan Dennis, like he manages to soften those vintage melismatic charms. Rosequest's more lines with light songcraft that recalls Big Head Todd and the Monsters' Todd Park Mohr — to continue down the 1990s wormhole — which lends his quietly romantic musings some welcome gravitas.

The B-side cut, "Friends, Heart, Family" is built on an upped-against acoustic progression, over which Rosequest croons in his detached but

tender growl. Further darkening the mood are flowing trembles of distorted guitar that build and disperse as the song ebbs and flows in its circling intensity. It's a brooding, light-as-air, 4/8 ballad if ever there was one (before cell phones, we kicked flies at concerts, kiddos).

Look, I'm a product of the 1990s. So I will always have a soft spot for any music that evokes that era of my youth. And I can say with near certainty that, had they existed when I was 18, either of these cuts by Poor and Perfect would have landed on someone's scrapbook along with high school staples such as "Bitter Sweet," "Full Moon," and "Rudeless." That's not meant as a slight, or to suggest the band's music is particularly dated. Rather, Poor and Perfect capture the essence of what made that music compelling, putting enough of a modern spin on it to make a then-pioneering crew feel a little bit like a teenager.

Ribs/Friends/Heart, Family by Poor and Perfect is available at academic.com.

DAN HOLLES

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Framing the Future

Axel's Frame Shop & Gallery, Waterbury BY DIAM CHIANG-WARREN



Pottery by Joan Horowitz



Whitney Aldrich



Monoprints and sculpture by Lynn Newcomb

Axel's Frame Shop & Gallery has been a mainstay in downtown Waterbury for more than 20 years, but its first three decades, the storefront at 15 Stone Street offered nearly what its name promised: to the back was a frame shop where customers could choose from two types of glass and an assortment of frames; at the front was a modest gallery space where the owner showcased his own artwork. That owner was Axel Stohberg.

Last year, Stohberg retired and moved to Maine, but the shop bearing his name is still there — with a new owner. Last spring, Stohberg sold his business to Whitney Aldrich, 42, a longtime Waterbury resident who had harbored dreams of opening a fine arts gallery in town.

"I've been involved with area arts' events, art at the Alley or the Waterbury Arts Festival," says Aldrich, a sculptor and graphic designer. "I've always been around all these area artists and hearing them say, 'We need a place in Waterbury to show our art.'"

A recent visit to the new Axel's reveals that Aldrich has kept its basic structure in place: frame shop in the back, gallery in the front. She's making the most of the space's appealing tall windows and pressed-in ceiling in the front while gradually separating things in the back where the ceiling had gone a bit patchy. Aldrich says she's keeping the low-cost custom framing, close customer relationships and local artwork displays for which the store had become known. As for "Axel's," she decided the name recognition was a boon for both business and community reasons. "People are so comfortable with this place and familiar with the fact that there was a frame shop here," Aldrich says. "Axel really was a character in town. People knew who he was. I felt like there was a legacy here."

Yet for all her respect for her predecessor, Aldrich is already ushering in changes and improving means.

The gallery, which Aldrich calls her "real love," has significantly expanded. Since taking over nine months ago, she's brought in a variety of works by more than a dozen local artists. A current exhibit features art and sculpture

around and around, large-scale black-on-white monoprints by Lynn Newcomb, abstract paintings by Carol Blecher and black-and-white photographs by Joanne Warren. Aldrich keeps commissions low, at 25 percent. And she's been having events and receptions in the space.

"Each time the gallery changes, we have an open reception and we see over 70 people, which I think is huge for this town," Aldrich says. "A lot of times about half the people are returners. People are coming back to meet the artists, to see the new work."

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN AROUND ALL THESE AREA ARTISTS AND HEARING THEM SAY, 'WE NEED A PLACE IN WATERBURY TO SHOW OUR ART.'

WHITNEY ALDRICH

She has also expanded her retail offerings, with small, functional items from local woodworkers, potters and jewelry makers.

"I feel that there's a real bridge there," Aldrich says. "People can identify with things that are at smaller price points, things they can hold, use, put a flower in, or on — that are still very artistic."

Aldrich came to own Axel's due to happy coincidence. At around the time Stohberg was looking to sell, she was casing around Waterbury for an affordable space in which to start that fine arts gallery. Aldrich had never before owned a business, but says her years as a freelance graphic designer gave her "transferable" skills in client services. And the girls business advice from her barhood, Wade Hodge, an engineer at Green Mountain College, Roseton.

After drawing up a rough business plan, Aldrich also sat down with a friend, Joanne Kirby, then co-owner di-

rector of Revitalizing Waterbury. "We met for a glass of wine and I proposed this business plan to her, because I know she's a huge supporter of the arts as well," Aldrich recalls. "I needed to find a way to pay rent and have a small commission rate." During their meeting, Kirby asked her, "Did you know that Axel is retiring and selling his business?"

The very next day, Aldrich marched up to Stohberg and presented her business plan to him. "It was exciting," she remembers. "Scary that it was exciting. I knew that there were other people interested in the space for different reasons, so it was important for me to let him know what my purpose was. And I think that's what really struck a chord with him — that I'm really doing it to support the arts."

Stohberg had just one stipulation: Aldrich would have to learn how to frame.

"It was a commitment I had to make with the space," she admits with a laugh. But as a longtime artist herself, she found the process of framing appealing. " figuring things out technically — how to hang them, how to keep them from falling apart — is something that's fun for me," Aldrich says.

Before leaving for Maine, Stohberg mentored his successor, apprentice-style, for 30 days. After taking the reins, Aldrich expanded the shop's offerings to include framing options that "weren't in Axel's quarter of Axel's" like standard framing workshops and museum modern framing and conservation techniques, aiming to offer her customers a broader range of choices.

"To add transferring," Aldrich says. "But I know that [the people] coming in have been pleasantly surprised by how different the gallery is and by the caliber of work they're seeing, the difference and the change of things. Really, I'm getting a lot of good feedback." ☐

INFO

axelsgallery.com

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Maple City Diner
Michael's on the Hill
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NEED on Main
One Federal Restaurant
& Lounge
Pavilion's Cafe
Pizzeria Pizzeria
Pizzeria Verita
Pizzeria Tia (Burlington,
Montpelier)
Pizzeria Tia Tap & Grill
Pizzeria Tia Pizzeria
The Red Chair Inn &
Restaurant
The Riverside Restaurant
and Tap Room
Revolution Kitchen
Rooster The Restaurant
Salt
San Jose Japanese
Restaurant
Sardonic's Restaurant
& Bar

The Smokey Shack & Ale
House
Shanty on the Shore
Shops Kitchen
Simon Pearce Restaurant
Shanty Pizzeria
(Burlington, Montpelier)
Simone's Kitchen
South End Kitchen
Sherry Night Cafe
Smashdown
The Spot
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& Grill
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Overweight research volunteers needed for a nutritional study

Healthy overweight women (18-40 yr) are needed for an 8-week NIH study of how the brain is affected by the type of fat you eat. Participants will receive all food for 8 weeks and \$1000 upon completion of the study. For more information please contact Dave Davidson (ddavidson@uvm.edu or 802-656-0085).

Email is preferred



Curses, Foiled Again

Police investigating a burglary at a church in Chula Vista, Calif., found a cellphone at the crime scene with a photo that the thief apparently took of himself. After identifying Adam Howe, 26, from the "photo," they arrested him and recovered some of the stolen property. (U.S. Sun Daily)

Problems Solved

Great walls could protect the Midwest from tornadoes, according to Kung-Yu Tsai, a physicist at Temple University. "If we built three east-west great walls in the American Midwest—one in North Dakota, one along the border between Kansas and Oklahoma to the east, and the third one in south Texas and Louisiana—we will diminish the threat in the Tornado Alley forever." Tsai said, explaining that the walls would need to be about 1,000 feet high and 150 feet wide. He estimated that they would cost \$60 billion per 100 miles. (USA Today)

Massive offshore wind farms would protect coastal regions from hurricanes, according to Mark Jacobson, an engineering professor at Stanford University. He calculates that grouping 70,000 wind turbines, each 50 feet tall, in a strategic location, such as the Louisiana coast, could lower a hurricane's maximum wind speed 50 to 90 percent (up to 92 mph) and reduce its

storm surge up to 80 percent, all while generating pollution-free electricity. Jacobson explained that the plan would work because the turbines produce power by taking energy from the wind, thus slowing it down. (USA Today)

Below Zero Tolerance

Administrators at a high school in suburban Chicago objected to a state law requiring that 4-by-6-inch stickers warning guns are not allowed be posted in schools, as well as in churches, government agencies and liquor stores. But officials at Turkey Park High School oppose the notices because an image of a gun appears on them. "You can't think of this and not think of Sandy Hook," principal Thomas Nolin said, adding that she would prefer "something more subtle." (Southwest Star)

Flammability Issues

German police blamed a fire at a dairy farm in Rastatt on methane gas from 90 flammable cows. High levels of the gas had built up in a farm shed, then a static electric charge caused the gas to explode with flashes of flames," the report stated, noting that one cow was treated for burns. (Reuters)

When Weight Watchers Isn't Enough

Venezuela beauty queen 90 May Neta, 38, revealed that she had a mesh patch stitched to her tongue to help her stay thin. "It makes me lose weight quicker," the 2003 first runner-up Miss Venezuela said, explaining that the plastic patch made eating solid food too painful. "You eat the soup, but I refused" (New York's Daily News)

An alternative to liposuction lets people lose fat through urination. This treatment, called Aquaphys, involves injecting a water solution into specific areas of the body. It liquefies fat cells, which are then eliminated over a three-week period. "Aquaphys isn't an injection for weight loss," Dr. British supplier, Mills Medical Services, said. "It is used for contouring the body and slimming down those stubborn fat areas." One session, which is as frequent as once a week, costs \$417. Mills Medical said, larger areas require several treatments. (British's Daily Mail)

Second-Amendment Politics

A 36-year-old man shot himself in the head while deconstructing gun safety

at his home in Independence Township, Mich. The man's girlfriend told Oakland County sheriff's deputies that the man, who had been drinking most of the day, was using his three hand guns to prove how safe guns are when they're empty. The first two he pointed at his head didn't fire, but the third one did. Calling the situation "pretty unique," Under Sheriff Michael McCabe remarked, "I have never heard of anyone testing out the safety of a gun by pointing at their head and pulling the trigger." (United Press International)

Criss Galentine, 32, was practicing turkey calls while walking with a friend in a wildlife management area in Tampa, Fla., when a hunter shot him twice with a high-powered rifle. Michael Truett, 41, said Fish and Wildlife Conservation officials that he mistook Galentine for a deer. (New York Times)

An off-duty on-duty officer reaching for his valid parking ticket at a crowded restaurant in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., accidentally triggered his concealed handgun, firing a round that sent ricocheting shrapnel into a group of patrons. One was injured, according to police Detective DeAnna Greenleaf, who identified the restaurant as Shooter's Waterfront. (South Florida Sun Sentinel)

BLISS BY HARRY BLISS



"That was out of this world!"

TED RALL



RED MEAT

day dreams night soil

from the pen and idea of
Max Cannon

Why no slaps and "Earl" then a big
pat on the back of the end of every session

Well, whatever, know... all these years
later I finally found the one I then post

Even if it was full of (and (cousin)) an
it was in the end of the day so you can still
keep and wait for at the same time



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

ONE BRIGHT EPHEMERAL...
--GO, THANKS TO DEBACHABLE-- I
CAN FINALLY QUOTE THIS PLANE!



UN PAI! THIS SOUND
LIKE A JOB FOR--



...VIBRANT HAND-UP-THE FREE
MARKET--HEART AND YES, I
KNOW YOU CAN SEE ME.



STOP BARRING AND THUMB, MAN!
JUST WALK UPON TO THE COUNTRY--
TO OUR NEXT WAY IN LIFE--IF
EVERY PERSON STAYS IN A "TERRIBLE"
AND--CHANGING ARE JUST BECAUSE
NO UP AND GOING?



I'M HERE TO SAVE YOU FROM A
FEARFUL MISTAKE, CITIZEN!
DON'T BE IT--DON'T FEARFUL, THIS
UNLAMENT SIGHT OF WORKING!



AT THE
AM YOU
CURRENTLY
WANT--



BUT I HAVE IT READY
I'M ONLY BEEN TOLD--
AND IT OUT FOR THE
INSURANCE!



SO YOU'VE BEEN OVERCONFIDENT
BY OVERHANGING--CHANGING BIG
OVERHANGING--CHANGING BIG
AND SAVED
YOU OF YOUR OWN OLD-DEMANDER
AMERICAN NEVER STAY!



ACTUALLY I'M GOING
TO START MY OWN
BUSINESS--



WELL, ME
THINK IT NOT
"COOL" TO
CRITICIZE A
HUNGRY
PRINCESS!



ONE THING
IT AM
AGAINST THE
PRINCESS
LAW!

WELL, ME
THINK IT NOT
"COOL" TO
CRITICIZE A
HUNGRY
PRINCESS!



WELL, ME
THINK IT NOT
"COOL" TO
CRITICIZE A
HUNGRY
PRINCESS!



ELF CAT

A comic strip by
JAMES KOCHALKA

@2009





Pisces

[Feb. 19 to March 20]

In the 1997 film *Avatar*, Powers, International Man of Mystery, the lead character announces, "Danger is my middle name." Bear mine, real people in the UK have been legally making "Danger" their middle name with surprising regularity (I think it would be smart fun for you Pisces to add an innovative element to your identity in the coming days, maybe even a new middle name. But I recommend that you go in a different direction than "Danger." A more suitable name might be "Changer" to indicate you're ready to quietly embrace change. Or how about "Banger" to express a heightened desire to rise and go/leave?

perspective on what we see by embracing our sense of self-worth? Whom and how can we put our values into play? What else should be your mission.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The renowned artist to his area came to the home of computer pioneer Steve Jobs and expressed a desire to call. Jobs was deeply touched and told him, "Your playing in the band inspired me to even look at the outside of Apple because I don't really believe in human ideas as this." Judging from the current astrological climate, Taurus, I'm guessing you will see unexpected unexpected phenomena or a transcendent expression of love or beauty that moves you to suspect that magic is about. Even if you are an atheist, you are likely to feel the primal shiver that comes from looking at color trees with excitement.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) In my dream I was looking a pay call for a classroom full of families. Your dream brings you great pleasure. I told them over the public address system "You need the company of people who love you to be inspired. You must be appreciative of your enthusiasm never satisfied. Give love for excellence doesn't come to you, it releases you. I think you will know to laugh even louder and sing even stronger and think even more. My rule the cloud was cheering and I was believing. "It's not hard to believe." I smiled. "It's not to be having with a white hat but to be the one using to the next vision." You are playing, learn to love even played.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) My life pathings no longer interest me" said the peaceful artist Patsy Pimenta when she was 79 years old. "I'm much more curious about death. I haven't done yet." I realize it might be controversial for me to suggest that you adopt a similar perspective. Cancerian After all you are remembered being a connoisseur of art and colors and past glories. One of your specialties is to keep memories close and absorb by feeling them with your previous love. To be clear I don't mean that you should continue to or express those upholders. But to love to say the next three words — I invite you to turn your attention toward the exciting things you haven't seen yet.

CHECK OUT OUR PREVIOUS SPANISH EDITION

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) I recommend that you sleep with a special someone whose dreams you like to blend with yours. And when I say "sleep with" I mean it literally. It's not a euphemism for "hooking up with." To be clear, making love with this person is fine if that's what you both want. But my main point is that you will have unexpected benefits from lying next to this companion as you both wander through the time-line. Being more aligned states together will give you inspiration you can't get any other way. If you want to change information on a conscious level that's exactly the purpose. To be transformed by what's flowing back and forth between your deeper mind. For extra credit, calculate your soul-deep dreams. Read the largest card in your meditation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) One word is true! And rock musician Bob Read about his no-frills approach to writing songs: "Two chords plus guitar. I three chords plus you and me." I recommend his perspective for you in the coming weeks. Virgo, your natural oriented appreciation of this complexity is one of your finest qualities. But every once in a while — like now — you can thrust by slipping down to the bones. This will be especially true about your approach to intimate relationships. For transcending past emotion that obstructs simplicity will generate the insights you need most.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) My Librans haven't received enough gifts, goodness and acceptance lately. My Librans, I can't tell you how you have deprived of your greatest source. It's not that I think you can be really this imbalanced in the cosmic ledger book can you enhance your ability to attract the fruits you deserve? It's important that we solve this riddle since you are entering a phase where your words and words will expand and change. Hence what I can offer: I hardly say that you to be whatever it takes to entice everyone into showing you with countless tears and laughter. To jumpstart this process shower yourself with boundless tears and laughter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The act of being is more like smiling than sleeping." wrote the famous philosopher Marcus

Aurelius more than 1800 years ago. Is that true for you? Scorpio? Do you experience more strenuous struggle and gaining wisdom than simply doing? Love of truth usually the star. I'm guessing that in the coming weeks your default mode should be more often in listening than speaking. The cosmos has decided to grant you a good period — we can consider that is. It's most apt to expect more than busy and have more fun that you normally have now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) For the first you are experiencing, neither champagne nor wine will bring you relief. New results are in the distant institutions like coffeehouse before the September. No rich rich rewards by watching. It's bridge as a rich or love and can be followed by any obvious hearing spirit. It is what we say more in the notes of a soul — a pretty book that is hard to keep open. It's alone time, for pursuing that there may be just one effective outcome in the end and quiet and only in your possibility can and then inspire your future self to watch it for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The words I wrote in my journal for my memory. Every day we walk through a play of manifestation and by delays and end moments that it can be hard to locate the new aspects of light and when that are actually useful and constant. But the last news Capricorn, here's the good news. You have an extraordinary ability to break out of the data that can actually empower you. You are a magnet for the important things you really need most.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If you came up with an original invention, apply for a patent immediately. If you think of a single idea just it to work as soon as possible. If you figure out several ideas that everyone else seems likely to expect the patent grant comes in quickly in your case. This is a perfect moment for making preparations around out with your ideas. It's not a time when you should receive help for the last with healthy relationships. For the sake of your mental health and for the good of your mankind being by chip, direct into the world.

EMAIL: astro@astro.com OR 1-877-875-8888



Vermont CARES

Committee for AIDS Resources, Education, & Services

Please join us on Saturday, 15 March 2014 from 7-11pm at the Essex Resort and Spa

Live Silent Auction

For details and to buy tickets, please call 800-649-2437 or visit www.vtcares.org

support statewide HIV/AIDS services, prevention, and education.

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WOMEN *asking?*

LEAVING FOR PLAYTIME

My boyfriend is spending a good 70 percent of his time at the gym, and he's not even in the gym for his cardio. I'm not sure if he's just not into it or if he's just not into me. I would be willing to let him go to the gym, but I would like to see him more often. *Anonymous 20, CT*

DATE ME THE GROUNDING TENDER

I'm a single mom looking for a date. I'm not 100% sure what I like and don't like in a man. I would like to meet someone who is a good father. *Anonymous 20, VT*

KINKY CURIOSITY

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

SEEKING INTERESTING GUY

I'm a single mom looking for a date. I'm not 100% sure what I like and don't like in a man. I would like to meet someone who is a good father. *Anonymous 20, VT*

HARVEST SEX

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

WINTER RIDES PLEASE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

NAUGHTY LOCAL GIRLS

WANT TO CONNECT
 WITH YOU

1-800-420-2223

69%

SEEKING CREEPY-LOOKING BOY

I'm a single mom looking for a date. I'm not 100% sure what I like and don't like in a man. I would like to meet someone who is a good father. *Anonymous 20, VT*

FEELING TURN ME ON

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

MEN *asking?*

TUESDAY JERSEY

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

ALL NIGHT LONG

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

LAME, LIVE TO LOOK MA

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

FINALLY

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

PARTYING, DRUGS, AND KINK

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

A NIGHT ON THE AVENUE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

WE'RE ALL WORKING FOR THE SAME THING

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

OPEN TO NEW EXPERIENCES

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

GETTING BACK ON THE HORSE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

ASAP'S OPEN HOUSE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

BYE AND BYE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

GIRLS *asking?*

TRYING SOMETHING NEW

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

ORDER MILLAGE NOW NOW

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

HAPPY NEW ADULTS COURSE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

BEAT IT

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

SEXUAL, GLOW UP AND WE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

COMING SEEKING FUN

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

IN LOVE AND LUST

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

NEED ADVICE

I'm looking for a date who is interested in kink. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. I'm not sure if I'm into it or if I'm just curious. I would like to meet someone who is into it. *Anonymous 20, VT*

Your vice counselor is
 Love, Lust and Life

ASK ATHENA



Dear Athena,

My boyfriend recently broke up with me and it came out of nowhere. He is sort of a loner because his family lives far away. He doesn't have very many friends and I know this breakup has been hard for him. I really want to reach out and help him but I'm not sure if I should. What should I do? I know he needs someone and I know him so well.

Sincerely

Confused and Heartbroken

Dear C and H,

What should you do? Nothing. Why do you feel the need to reach out? While it sounds nice of you to want to "help" him through this, you can't — because he broke up with you. The person you broke up with just can't be the person who helps you with the breakup. [Say that Five Times Fast.]

My guess is you want to help him because you're having trouble letting go. You have an urge to see him, you don't want it to be over so you convince yourself he needs you. You might make an excuse to "need" to see him. It's what I call the "I forgot some CDs at your place" tactic: leaving something at an ex's house so you have an excuse to see him or her again. And admit it, you're probably thinking: Maybe it could even be the start of getting back together? It's like, if he sees me and we get to talking, he'll love me all this time. ... He needs me. I'm sorry to say so, but he doesn't need you. For whatever reason he broke up with you. Let him find a new friend or a spiritual adviser or get a library card. He needs a choice, and you have to let him make it and start moving on.

No question: being dumped is really hard. The event means a loss of control, and it's not the jump-out-of-a-plane, run-mad-through-the-forest, shots-of-tequila-and-dancing-on-the-bar-kind. No, it's the "Gosh, where did that come from?" sting. Telling yourself that he needs you is a mental attempt to regain some control. To put it bluntly, and on the heart: Tell yourself it's not real. The loss is temporary. Forget helping him and help yourself! Regain control by getting comfortable with you again. Because dear C&H, you deserve it.

Yours
 Athena

Need advice?
 You can send your own question to
her@askathena.sevendaysvt.com

Just now you read pg. 7 Days and thinking what I presume must surface at Uncommon Grounds is still highly qualified my letter on aspects if nothing not the story trying to catch your eyes and last, time should've been something about there's no typing you see it's. You are a beautiful female blonde bright blonde" is the culture charming eyes. **When Saturday March 1 2016, When Uncommon Grounds Free Women, He (H) #H32021**

I see you every month when I come. It is such
my friends. You tell you and I would be
into this day. You are very friendly and always
try to make conversation to me. You are
without the coffee and I would like to see
and I would like to see you for a night out.
I'd love to take you when Friday February
10, 2014. When I'll be in South America.

I am of the Sparky Puggy race a beautiful breed in a perfect playing pool. When Mr. Mike called my dog definitely was turning some heads. He would someone was in for you without missing a beat. I don't do things, they very often but I will. I did. When Friday February 27, 2014. Mike Sparkypuggy. Your Name: Mike Mike. 875-200-0000

to see my weekly meetings. Can I get one sooner than that as a first date. I would really like to see if we were closer and if we could work, I would like to be with you. You have stolen my heart, I know that you will be with me. You are my first love. Friday February 18 2006. When London, You May Be Home. 100000

October at FederalCrest will allow you to enjoy the best of both worlds: the beauty of the outdoors and the comfort of a warm bed. Now, with the new FederalCrest, you can enjoy the best of both worlds. The new FederalCrest is a truly great sleeping experience. When sleeping February 4, 2004, FederalCrest will be yours. Call 1-800-888-8888.

Five-best looking but haven't seen a beauty puffing a shot at the other way around. Any interest in going out together? **When: Wednesday, February 12, 2009 Where: a couple weeks ago Your Woman like: Men #102038**

Dearest/loved ones open your heart to my
beautiful presence for the whole **WEEK**
Thursday January 23 2020 Where on the
sea East You Welcome, Mr./Mrs. JESSE

Let's have a talk, you called me on last Sunday, why were you out? I got under and passed. We're 3 days from the bus and I hope to see you again. See you after you can't wait. ©
When: Saturday February 22, 2025 **Where:**
 Don Leong's, Bay Wharf, Mo. Hwy. 387/2025

Myra, I asked others to bring my position in but has always been wanted to take a pay, your wife is a PRINCE, just wondering if you're into and what you'd go out somewhere? **When**
Reaching Feb 05, 2004 **Where:** **Washington**
NY **Joe** **Man**, **Mr** **Woman** #902010

Glad we could chat on Sunday and watch
last instant from you. You have my love!!
When: Sunday February 23, 2014 Where:
Grass Bay, Wharfedale, W. Yorks. 20140223

Yes, with Jarhead this year taking out the trash as I was making it. Thank you for lending my love against a cold or nice day!
When: Tuesday February 23 2010 Where:
Jeffersonville, New York, NY 13120



Whereas I have Editorial Change I third of the
are the author and editor and pay for the
with the author. You can, therefore, be
and make an accurate forecast. Instead
change the program in the future, you
and should. We can give you the
the whole. Since the whole is a process, it
from Saturday January 15, 2014. Where
Winnipeg, MB, You May Be. Where
Winnipeg, MB, You May Be. Where

For years I have been attempting to make eye contact with you, and finally you looked at me and said: "I just kept nervous and pretended I didn't notice." Sorry, but you were right. You are a real lion. I am a real quail. When I believe February 13, 2004. When I hear N. You know me. I am, 1750000.

Happy birthday! I hope that you have wonderful, joy filled waterworks freely brought forth. May all of your dreams come true and may you live the life with happiness. **When:** Tuesday February 25, 2008 **Where:** as previous
 Dr. Row Woman Mr. Man, #610330

You know how I feel about you? I value it as much as my siblings. Luckily I won't sacrifice you off my side. May be I'm going and I want a new larger room maybe it's the first time I spend with you the most time I want to be with you. You will wonder how I can be so close to you. **When Monday February 25 2013** When I see I thought you

Mr. Dean, you tell me how. When, Saturday the 24th and Mr. Highground, standing together at the bar you appeared for bumping into me because you were totally off clouded. I asked to go down to see. Then we shook hands while flipping ourselves off. The next you were in my hospital. I'll never let someone outlive me.

Thanks so much for walking past my little
Grove and 5th Avenue Ave. when you drove
past and stopped to see my garden
display. That made me smile. Thanks!
Friday February 21, 2014 When Thursday
is back. See tomorrow. See you. 20140221

"Yes. I promise you. Turned-out what I say, I will say to be you the real time from you. But I can't seem to find you. I guess I don't get out enough. When Monday February 24, 2014. Where ever you are. You Man. Mr. Herman. Herman."

Overheard you talking about some teacher
Gee, I wanted to say it anyway so I bought
it and read it for three issues in your work
I don't read the covers for me. So you
are you working. Coffee sometime? **Wines**
Monday February 24, 2008 When coffee
shop, New Orleans 50 West 70002

Such a nice job, and you do it with a wonderful smile. It reminds me, when away from home, I feel like you more than any other time in my life. I am so glad to hear you are doing well and are having fun. One of my favorite teachers is your daughter. I hope she is doing well. I have no doubt. So happy to hear from you. Love. Life is so good. In Whittier, Friday February 22, 2024. With love, Barbara. New Orleans, LA. 504. 586. 2522.

Colony February 22 2009 **Where** Shane's ex-boyfriend met Mary, who...
[Read more](#)

the deliver 30% Champagne!! after and
always makes me nervous upon the dock and
see you standing there. You're full with them,
jessica r. I think you're in your 30s and
you have an extremely lovely face you out

Wednesday February 13, 2014 Where: Old
North Fort, Fox Head, Mt. Vernon, DISTRICT

You are the most amazing person I have ever met and I am so lucky to call you my boyfriend. I hope that we have a million years of togetherness. I already love you and now I love you more. Love you to the moon and back. When, Friday February 14, 2008. When I say I love you, I mean, I do. Always. #100000

Miss your fair-skinned, blue-eyed, hawking your sweet voice whorl-in my ear, being wrapped in your arms always made me feel safe. You will always have a special place in my heart, and I will forever be your preacher, on **When Thursday February 26, 2014, I'll be in my dream. You Man On Women 2014**

You can invite people to enjoy from the start, Wincham. Mr. Long had dark clothes. Today to enjoy you completely. Jennifer, the cat's too smart! smoked you enjoying again the holder had to leave me to you were outside. regretted meeting a new to get to each. Thought you'd go back up, of being good. I asked you to be home! When Tuesday February 16 2016. Who Higher Ground You Wan, Mr. Warren, #HSGC16

Fun, music and live! Plus, discover your special side as well. Everything about you is perfect! You are Karry's and the Parkway Drive Cast, with a message to you: **Where: Wednesday, February 18, 2015, Winner: Melissa Rose, Fox, Warner, Me, H&N, 2015088**

I love you working as Muddy Waters on Valentine's Day last Friday. Good luck in school! See you and your sweet wearing a pink shirt with jeans. You looked at me really well there today quite bit to afford to someone like me. Thank you for beauty I decided to write you this. Remember me and stay. May this find you. When Friday February 14 2008 Wines, Muddy Waters
 Facebook.com, MySpace.com, YouTube.com, etc.

To their four-eyed brown halibut, that I saw
my ninth day 12 years ago, like silver pain
leapings to eat their pain. Through the great an-
tiseptic lens we stayed together, seeing, when
silver was too weak, not even the silver strong
images could be evoked and the survival kept.
To see the 12 years, as a body and a body
When, Thursday February 11 2004, when in
revelation, the New York Times, #12324

Share: Saturday Sundup more right? With
 Your love, your kindness, your and let up my
 smiling, even more than the blinding star,
 March you'll let the world's light! A ray of light
 for me. You know where to find me. When
 Sunday February 18, 2014 Where: Karna
 Karna: You Miss the Moment. 000000

[illegible]

Could it be that, for figures about who you
and Hayley-Bull ... who answers World Where
Sunday February 16 2014 Where: here and
there: New Woman: Mr Khan, m882(86)

Your lovely book definitely has to be my all time fave. I am a gay man that was in a relationship with the perfect girl that was more into me than I was. Group of friends, she became wonderfully blind. Thank you for being truly who you are. Sunday February 16, 2014 Whimsy Crispale, New Woman Her-His, a 512204

We stand like convention. Then your phone rings and you're out the door before I could get you home. I would like to love you out any day. We Saturday February 15, 2014. Where: Breggen Church St. You Woman Me Man. #111111

Happy Valentine's Day to the girl that was on the Orleans Express with me this week. We were having a lot of fun in the back. I got off at the Maritime Museum. Hope you have a good day. When Tuesday February 19th.

Happy Valentine's Eve to Wham Friday,
February 16, 2014. Wham is asking for
your prayers for the day.

CURIOUS?

you already have at least one thing in common!

Browse more than 2000 local singles with profiles including

It's free to place your own

☐ see photos of

100

MAGIC HAT MARDIGRAS

THANK YOU TO

MERCI BEAUCOUP!

We wish to offer our heartfelt thanks to the Burlington community for again coming together to celebrate our 15th annual Magic Hat Mardi Gras. It was another glorious weekend, and it could not have happened without all of you who came out. We are especially grateful to Mayor Weinberger, the City of Burlington, and all its departments for joining forces to put on a marvelous event.

AND TO ALL OUR KILLER FLOATS

Burlington Police Department, Burlington Fire Department, Burlington Public Works, Church Street Marketplace, CTEA, Green Mountain Concert Services, Delivery Morning & Event Management, Elder Durburton, The Flood Float, Higher Ground, Leasing, Manhattan Plaza, Newmarket, Nick's & Alex Place, R & R Irish Pub, Investors Corp of Vermont, Alan Campbell, Tombsworth, Yonkers Family Center, The London Road, Sphartha, FPHD, Alcia Hanks, Jeannine Johnson, Jeff Lawrence, Bill Ward, Mark Wilson, Mark Rodgers, Gary Collier, Harpigney Company, Grace Mountain Trust, My Mikes, Charles & Eric at WHFF, Jean Hry and Halogen Media Works, Susan Auld, HOPE Works Band, Burlington High School, Metromove, Ken Kinnagh, Hubertson's Dryclean, Cafe Daily Planet, Burlington Church & Mass Restaurant, Kit Clark, Candie Longwell, Dave Marshall and the on-air talent of WZLW and THE BUZZ, Colby Edwards, Paul Prater, Bryan Morris, Woodard and Lighting, Doves Equipment Rental, and all the staff of all our sponsors!

Special thanks to our amazing partners:

Seven Days, 30.7 WZLW, 99.9 The Edge, Jeffline Airways, Strangler's Nicks, Hobbs Burlington, Lake Champlain Chocolate, Cabot Creamery Cooperative

Thanks and gratitude to our legions of volunteers spearheaded by Catherine Wilson and the HOPE Works staff. There is no way that this festival could continue each year without all of your support.

Allstate Promoters of the Lake Champlain Region, Allstate, Cascade Wine, C&H Sales & Service, Community Sailing Center, Edson Jean Investment, Foodsource Corporation, Gorbier's Supply, HOPE Works Band, Mount Kew, KW Vermont Kudos Williams Radio, Lyle's Design Company, MyMAGnum, On My Day, Pinedale Forestry, Preservation Burlington, Press Chopper, RedSource, Seven Days, SeaCannons, The Shoney Passade, Vermont National Bank, WZLW The Buzz

AND EVERYONE ELSE WHO HAD A HAND IN MAKING THE 15TH ANNUAL MAGIC HAT MARDI GRAS PARADE A TRUE SUCCESS! CHEERS!

HOPE WORKS

HOPE Works is thrilled to announce that it raised \$9,000 (and counting) this year! Thanks to all those who showed support for this awesome cause! If you or your business had a great time at the parade, we encourage you to thank HOPE Works by making a tax-deductible donation by visiting www.hopeworks.org. HOPE Works relies on the support of individuals, businesses and events such as Magic Hat Mardi Gras! Thank you!

Thanks to our
Top 3 Fundraisers
for HOPE Bands!
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•Boloco
•The Seattle Steak
& Ale House

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OF FESTIVE
FLOATS!



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BANDS (BANDS WELCOME) BEAUTY AND
POWER OF PHOTOGRAPHY BURLINGTON



WILLIAM HART BURLINGTON BURLINGTON
FOR BURLINGTON BURLINGTON AND LANE
CHAMPLAIN CHAMPLAIN



PLAYBOY'S BURLINGTON
THE PLAYBOY'S BURLINGTON BURLINGTON
BURLINGTON BURLINGTON BURLINGTON



THE BURLINGTON BURLINGTON BURLINGTON



BURLINGTON BURLINGTON BURLINGTON



BURLINGTON BURLINGTON BURLINGTON



A NEW BURLINGTON BURLINGTON
BURLINGTON BURLINGTON BURLINGTON

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MAYHEM
& MORE!

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